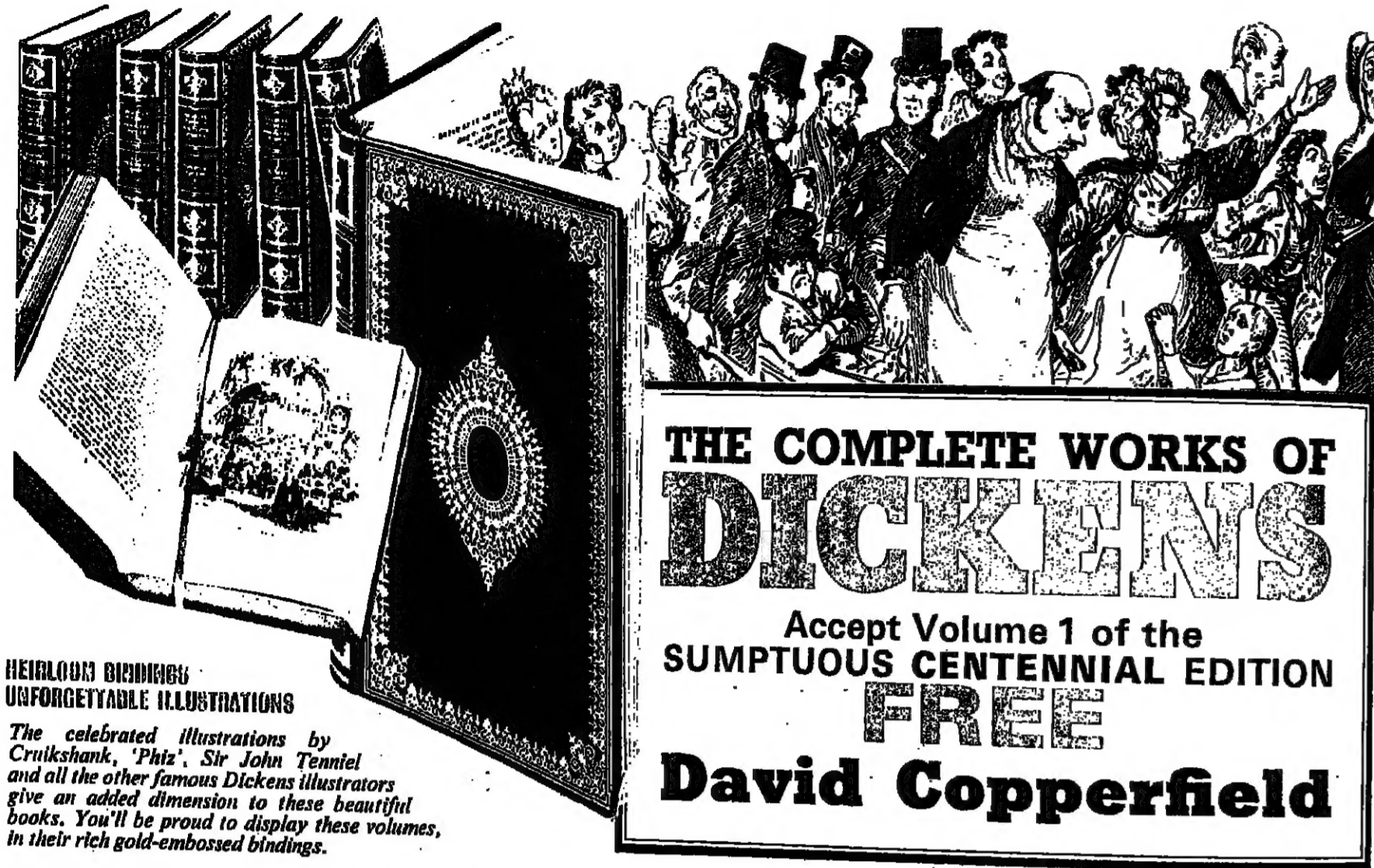


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**THE JERUSALEM
POST MAGAZINE**

Friday, October 27, 1972



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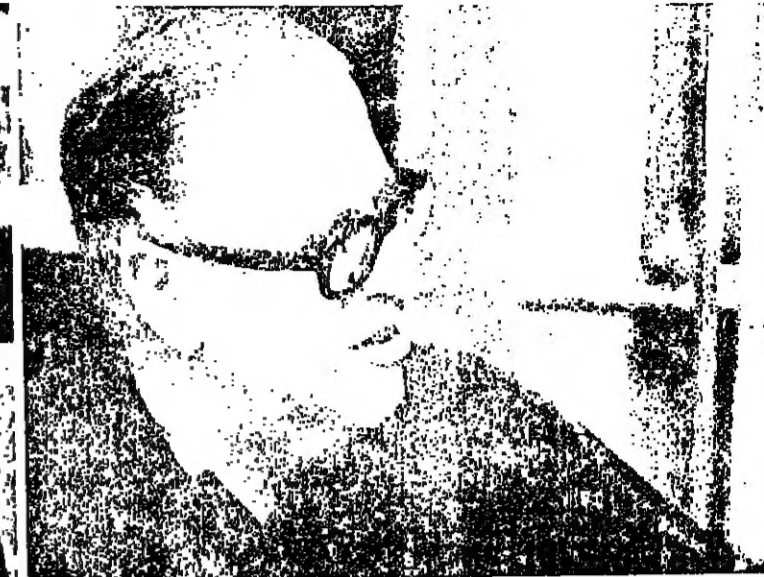
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Power and diplomacy



Foreign Minister Abba Eban discussed the tasks and the problems facing Israel in an informal interview with a team from the Jerusalem Post, at his house in Jerusalem one evening this week. The account of the meeting was written by Diplomatic Correspondent DAVID LANDAU.

ISRAEL is not planning any new peace initiative in the coming weeks. "I know," says Foreign Minister Abba Eban, "that initiatives are more popular than letting the other side sweat it out." Nevertheless, he is convinced that Israel's best policy at present is to let Egypt's President Sadat "sweat it out," with his range of alternatives narrowing all the time, eventually driving him to discussions with Israel itself.

In the meantime, Israel should "develop commerce and human exchanges" with the administered areas in the West Bank while "not making decisions which would foreclose the possibility of peace negotiations." Mr. Eban believes that nothing should be done to "remove the air of transience" from the areas, because he envisages an eventual peace settlement in which Israel would part with most of the areas and most of their inhabitants.

Mr. Eban says that the U.S. Administration shares the view that no new Israeli initiative is required at the moment. The Americans are satisfied with the present state of affairs. "They feel that things have gone well for them. I found in the U.S. no signs of malaise or discomfort at the consequences of their Middle East policy."

U.S. reasons

He lists the reasons for American satisfaction: Israel is holding firm; its Government is neither collapsing nor making too great demands on Washington. The Soviets have left Egypt and the military situation is substantially defused. The principle of U.S. support for Israel is causing no tension within American society (... "Vietnam and Israel should always be thought of in terms of antithesis and contrast," Mr. Eban observes.) At the same time, there has been no decline in the U.S. position in the Arab world; on the contrary, several Arab states are hoping to re-establish

diplomatic relations with Washington. Even Syria is showing signs of moderating its anti-Western stance.

Secretary Rogers gave voice to his Government's satisfaction when he met Mr. Eban recently in New York, and, says Mr. Eban, "I gained the impression from other Foreign Ministers that Mr. Rogers had spoken to them about the Middle East in the same terms."

The success of Israel's and America's Middle East policy to date augurs well for the future, Mr. Eban reasons. A basic tenet of U.S. policy has been not to impose a settlement against the will of the parties — and Washington's own interests are served by continuing to adhere to that principle. Thus, while the Foreign Minister agrees with Minister without Portfolio Gallili's recent prediction that "a more intense period of political activity" is likely after the U.S. elections, he does not anticipate U.S. pressure in the direction — for instance — of the Rogers Plan, which Israel continues to oppose.

Western European governments too says Mr. Eban, are coming round to the view that it would be wisest to let things take their own course in the Middle East for the next few months.

It was difficult for me to tell some of our European friends that "Your best service would be political restraint" — which is a euphemistic way of asking them to keep out of Middle East diplomacy. But happily, the U.S. joined in to convince the Europeans that Egypt is gradually being pressured by circumstances to cross the negotiating barrier.

"The Europeans are now saying in effect: 'Well, we have our own views, but it isn't a derogation of our honour if we let things proceed on their own momentum for a few months — especially since the military situation is no longer so dangerous.'" Mr. Eban notes that France in particular has shown a marked weakening in its determination to initiate diplomatic action over the Middle East.

There was a report which quoted the Foreign Minister as telling his British opposite number, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, that "predictions." What, asked Yaakov

Reuel, was Sir Alec's reaction — and for that matter, the reaction of other Western statesmen — to that observation? Mr. Eban said Western Foreign Ministers had indeed recognized that Israel had been correct so far, "but sometimes there is a parsimonious stress on the words 'so far'."

Another quarter from which initiatives have been expected is U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim. But Mr. Eban states categorically: "There is no Waldheim Plan at present." The Secretary-General "has no intention of presenting anything to which the parties themselves are opposed."

Waldheim suggestion

Dr. Waldheim has already — very tentatively — a suggestion for a Rhodes-type peace conference, with Israel and the Arab states participating under his chairmanship. Earlier this year the Secretary-General broached the idea of a Middle East peace conference with the parties and perhaps the Powers taking part, but he has since dropped the idea. Mr. Eban says that "the Powers" would have to include China, and Russian-Chinese animosity is now so virulent that any such conference would inevitably degenerate

into a slugging match between the two Communist giants.

Dr. Waldheim will certainly make no move until the current General Assembly is over, says Mr. Eban, and even then he will probably first wish to give the U.S. a chance to arrange "proximity talks" on a partial Canal settlement, which is a likelier prospect than a peace conference on an overall settlement. Israel is not opposed to a peace conference in principle — as long as it provides for meeting with each Arab state individually. (Israel wishes, however, that first priority be given at the present time to combating Arab terrorism.)

AMERICA'S vigorous defence at the Moscow summit of the principle of "non-imposition" was, in Mr. Eban's view, a major cause of the Egyptian ouster of the Soviets later in the summer. It caused "deep political disappointment in Egypt," adding to the dissatisfaction already existing on both sides with the Russian-Egyptian relationship. No, the Foreign Minister confesses, he did not predict the Soviet expulsion; he has yet to meet anyone who did. But there were

signs, even back in 1971, that all was not well between patron and client. Israeli analysts noted Egyptian disillusionment with the Soviets for not "delivering the goods" — not providing the latest offensive weapons on the one hand, and not delivering up Israel on a platter by diplomatic pressure on the other. Coupled with this was Egypt's national pride and her resentment of the presence of foreign troops, "Egypt's national mystique," says Mr. Eban, "is derived from the memory of the British withdrawal."

On the Soviet side, there was a feeling that their massive investment in Egypt was not being well used. There was also what Eban terms "a Vietnam syndrome" — a feeling that more and more men, more and more hardware were being poured in, without any real end in sight. The Foreign Minister accepts the "unchallenged general assumption" that the Soviets will not return to Egypt on the previous scale. "I am certain," he says, "that the Soviets have not given up their desire to build up a strong position in Egypt. But looking back, they may well

(Continued on page 4)



Discussion this week at Mr. Eban's residence in Jerusalem. Clockwise from lower left are Mr. Eban; Foreign Ministry spokesman Avraham Avdair; Post Features Editor Ya'akov Kenel; Diplomatic Correspondent David Landau; News Editor Ari Rath; Elhan Bentzur, head of the Foreign Minister's Bureau; Post Jerusalem Bureau chief Shalom Cohen; and Deputy Editor Lea Ben Dor.

ON THE COVER: Russian-made T-54 tank, now incorporated into the Israel Defence Forces, photographed by David Rubinger.

Power and diplomacy

(Continued from page 3)

feel that they got involved too deeply." Economic and technical assistance were acceptable, but sending in troops and "flying around in Egyptian skies" went far beyond traditional Russian policy, which limits actual physical presence to the "confines of Russia's traditional continental *lebensraum*." The Soviets might well regard the Egyptian episode as an aberration and be seeking to return to their traditional policy. Sadat, on his part, could hardly invite them back again, having gained such enormous popularity by driving them out.

Mr. Eban agrees that Russia will now probably look towards Iraq and Syria as likely areas in which to increase its influence. There would be less danger of a confrontation with the U.S. there than in Egypt, he explains, and rapprochement with the U.S. is now the central plank of Soviet policy. Russia has an overwhelming fear of Chinese power and pretensions. It was the Kremlin's acute desire to avoid a confrontation with Washington which dictated its refusal to supply Egypt with heavy bombers. Delivery of the planes might well have put paid to the summit conference. The choice was between annoying Washington and annoying Cairo and Moscow, understandably, preferred the latter.

THIS, then, is the Foreign Minister's view of the general Middle East situation. Egypt's military option is effectively closed. The Russians will not endanger world detente for Egypt's sake. Success from aboard as a result of political pressure has failed to materialize, since the U.S. opposes an imposed settlement. Europe has not produced the hoped for initiative, and nor will Weidemann make any formal proposal until he has "cleared" it with the parties. An "epidemic of negotiation" is currently sweeping the world and Mr. Eban reasons that President Sadat, too, should succumb to it and agree to talk peace.

"Could he get away with it?" asks Lea Ben Dor.

"Can he afford to do nothing?" Eban counters. "This way, he gets the Canal back and puts his civilian flag where it hasn't been till now."

"Rationally — and this is the weakness in what I'm saying — he should want to negotiate for a partial settlement. But rational actions are the least likely in the Middle East... And yet he'll have to show results. I don't know what aibi he can offer. He's always said he's waiting for something for Jarling, for the General Assembly, for the summit conference, for a European initiative. Now he's waiting for the U.S. elections, hoping that after November 7 the setbacks of the last year will turn out to have been a ghastly dream. If November, December, January go by and his hope isn't realized — what can he say then? The easiest thing would be a Suez Canal settlement as it does not require a prior withdrawal from Israel for total withdrawal, or a surrender by Egypt of its basic positions."

And Rath: "Dayan talks in terms of a partial settlement lasting 10 or 15 years..."

Mr. Eban: "I don't think they will accept a temporary line in Sinai for 10 or 15 years. But a Suez settlement would have a momentum of its own." The Minister outlines a fascinating hypothesis: if Egypt were to reach a partial Canal settlement with Israel, then Jordan would perhaps move towards a full peace agreement.

"Hussein seems ready to make peace — but without a territorial

compromise. But this might change after an Egypt-Israel arrangement. Now he is saying in effect: 'I would be a pioneer if I made peace with you unilaterally. You can't expect me to give up territory as well.' But I can't believe he really thinks he can have peace without foregoing some territory — even Jerusalem. However, if the Egyptians were to make the first move — everyone, the Americans, the Russians and ourselves, agrees on the primacy of Egypt in the Arab world — then Hussein could come in without being accused of changing the direction of Arab nationalism. He would no longer be a pioneer."

SINCE the Minister himself had acknowledged that no breakthrough to peace was imminent, we asked him what he thought ought to be done with the administered areas — particularly with the West Bank — until there was some development on the diplomatic front. Mr. Eban advocates "ambivalence."

"Not to remove the air of transience — that's not hampering us anyway. If we said to the Arabs on the West Bank 'You're with us forever' we would be forcing them into a national struggle and at the same time be losing support abroad. If I had to speak out, I would say to most of them: 'Your political destiny does not lie with Israel.' At the same time, says Mr. Eban, Israel should "develop commercial ties and human exchange" with the West Bank.

But we ask how long can this go on? What if Sadat is not man enough to take the plunge? Five years have already gone... "We have had less effect on the Arab territories than perhaps some of our accusers think. When I hear the charge abroad that we are 'inundating the territories,' I feel like saying: 'Do you know how many Israelis live outside the pre-67 border? A few thousand. We can't inundate anyone...'"

Mr. Eban's concern with demography shapes his outlook on the future of the territories in an eventual peace treaty.

"There is no precedent in modern history of a state, 40 per cent of whose inhabitants do not love it and feel no loyalty towards it." He rejects the idea — mooted by Defence Minister Dayan — of integrating the West Bank into Israel while allowing its inhabitants to retain their Jordanian citizenship and voting rights. "It would be portrayed as a denial of rights: 'We have the territories — and they don't even become citizens.' It would look worse than the Greater Israel policy of keeping the territories and granting citizenship and equal rights to the Arabs. Also, formal exercise of the Jordanian vote doesn't mean much if your vote does not affect yourself, your own life, your village."

Mr. Eban is similarly unimpressed with the contention that if the West Bank reverted to Arab rule, Jews would, in effect, be denied access there.

"I am not sure if this would be so if there were peace. They are getting used to the access for their goods, or for thousands of workers, or for people coming to visit their families or to visit their families or to visit their families... We could demand reciprocity. And they would want to visit Jerusalem — we'd play that card."

Mr. Eban subscribes, in general terms, to the "Allon Plan" which envisages the bulk of the West Bank — with the majority of its inhabitants — returning to Arab rule, leaving an Israeli *sanctuary* of military and paramilitary settlements along the length of the Jordan River. The Israeli soldiers on the Jordan should be able to prevent any

infiltration of terrorists from the east. Hebron? "That depends on the eventual boundary. And we must not exclude unconventional ideas..." Hebron could be an Israeli enclave in Arab territory. Why, then, could not the whole West Bank be an Arab enclave in Jewish territory? "Quantity matters," the Minister replies. A Jewish enclave would be one small exception. But the West Bank, with its million Arabs, surrounded by millions of other Arabs would not be an "enclave."

THE discussion about the future of the territories and the differences of outlook between ministers naturally led to questions about "the succession" Mr. Eban said that the Labour Party would try to persuade Golda Meir to remain as long as possible whether the elections were brought forward six months or not. He would not be an emotional appeal: there was objective justification for it. Mrs. Meir had proved her ability to keep the party and the coalition united. Since Mr. Eban himself also wants Golda to remain, he feels it would be "inconsistent" to discuss his preferences for her successor.

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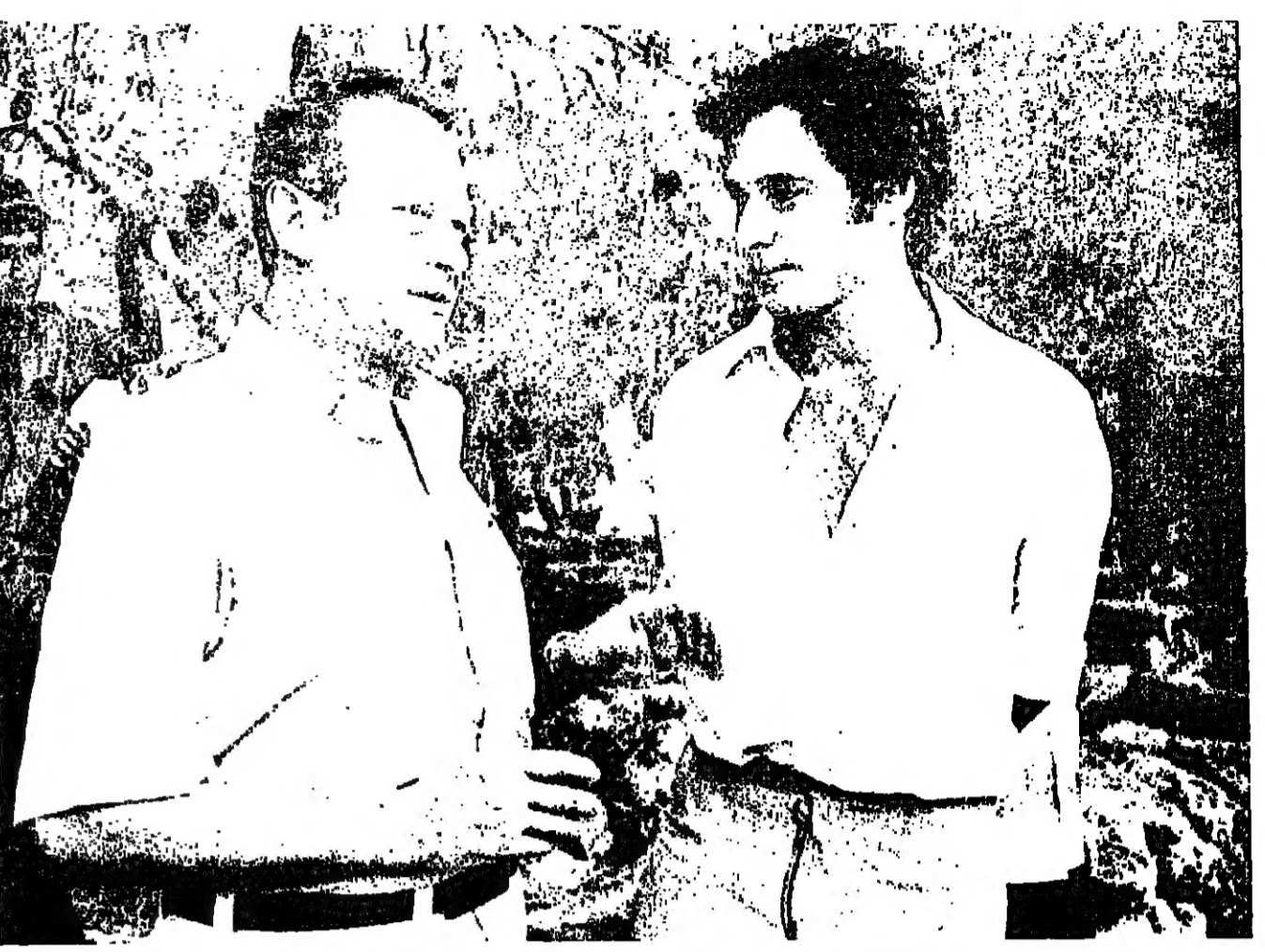
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Elections are coming



Former Palmah commander Yigal Allon, who as Minister of Education is responsible for the publication of the book about the Palmah which caused a furore in the Knesset this week, pictured with Yoram Sadeh, son of Palmah founder Yitzhak Sadeh.

NOBODY could relish the terrible rumpus staged in the Knesset on Wednesday by Gahal against a pamphlet nominally on the Palmah, which has been published by the Education Ministry and distributed to teachers, but which also contains many critical and derogatory references to the IZL and Stern Groups of pre-State days, the two underground groups that fused into Herut in 1948. "Staged" is accurate, for while the emotion is genuine, the substance is prepared and organized with members taking turns to keep up the heckling. The publication is uncharitable, and, in a fundamental sense, also illogical.

Ben-Gurion was driven in the early days of the State by an urgent sense of what he called *mamlehut*, or the need for building a state, not a party, a movement, or a class-bound society. Military organizations owing loyalty to political parties are divisive, and the opposite, the synthesis of *mamlehut*. He was willing to have the arms-laden "Akalia" sunk on Tel Aviv beach rather than have it deliver its arms to the IZL, or even to negotiate with them on how the arms should be divided out. That would have meant recognizing this group as an equal partner to the state he headed, and thereby splitting it. It was an unexpected sequel for most people that he should also have broken up the coherence of the victorious Palmah units, and have them absorbed in the army on an individual basis. The seed of anti-Ben-Gurionism in the labour section was sown at that time.

The Palmah, Israel's first full-time soldiers while the Mandate was still operating, were a favourite child in the light of hindsight, many people would agree today that if the Palmah had been permitted separate existence, based mainly on Abba Kovner's kibbutzim, there would have been a built-in split in the Israeli Army from the beginning, and that we are extremely fortunate that this was avoided. Mr. Yigal Allon, ex-Palmah leader, is entitled to believe that the development of the army was retarded by this decision, but this retardation cannot have been very serious in view of the army's quite extraordinary success in every subsequent battle. If it had not been retarded, how much better still could it be today?

In any case, the view is acceptable to an ex-Palmah man, but the expression can be challenged by the public was not quite clear

what was going at the time such shocking waste was displayed by the parties in the elections of 1965, when the late Levi Eshkol was anxiously preparing the Labour party to re-elect him against the unknown strength of Mr. Ben-Gurion's newly formed Rafi party. There were bus rides up and down the country for all who wished to go, public performances, a whole circus that cost untold millions, and all the other parties did their best to compete, and some of them have been nursing their debts ever since. The Labour money came from the big cooperatives and industrial and commercial firms, and it was only later, after the elections were over and Labour was back in power, as it always had been, that people began to ask themselves what all this money had really been spent on, and who would ultimately pay for it. The principle of open public financing was closely linked with control of election expenditure, and by this means appealed to all sides.

The Labour Party was relieved at the idea of being able to spend less, and knowing that the others would be forced to spend less still; smaller parties like the National Religious Party was equally relieved at the thought that when election came the money would be there, without the agonizing business of having to be borrowed in the certainty that it could not be repaid. When the idea was raised before the 1969 elections the public would have needed some time to digest it, but this difficulty never arose because it was not consulted. The temporary election finance law was badly marred by some horse-trading that let Gahal keep the money for three members that had broken away, while at the same time awarding the sum over to the breakaway group. All of this has been fixed now, with parties to get a 50 per cent advance before the elections, with the rest to be paid after the results are in.

LABOUR and Gahal at each others' throats did not make a pretty picture. The extraordinary thing is that it looks no more attractive or natural when they get together and doves and hawks go together in a single bridge, for the purpose of providing public funds for the election. Mr. Yisrael Kargman, a Labour spokesman who has little time or sympathy for other points of view, gets on the platform and presents a law jointly with Dr. Badat, the Gahal economics spokesman, who is equally deaf and blind to any argument but his own, and the listener feels that something is profoundly wrong. Is it not enough that Labour stretches from Mr. Meir Yaari (Mapam) on the left to Landor-Mordechai Surkies on the right, and from Histadrut Secretary-General Mr. Ben-Aharon to Finance Minister Sapir, without taking in the whole of Gahal as well? The agreement is largely agreed on the principle, and can afford to be indifferent to the fact that the public is not yet persuaded of the merits of paying the operating expenses of the political parties.

MR. Uri Avneri (Olam Hazeh), who has become absolutely deaf to criticism as the result of being a much-criticized one-man minority for too long, came up with an ingenious proposal. The subvention should be calculated in accordance with the number of seats a party won in the Knesset, because that favoured the big parties. It was the small parties that needed funds to put their views across — or they would always stay small — while the big ones were

already sufficiently well known. There should be, say, half a million pounds basic allocation for each party, and a modest sum extra per member. This might of course be a reason for parties to split up into smaller groups that would each collect their allocation, and rejoin as blocs later. As a matter of fact Mr. Avneri has an election weapon far more valuable than mere money — a weekly of his own that presents his views right through the years. Mr. Avneri won one seat in 1965 and two, barely, in 1969, but has since broken with his party colleague, Mr. Shalom Cohen, and will be lucky if he can regain his single seat next year. He cannot campaign any longer as the champion of the Arabs of the West Bank, for they have indicated plainly that they prefer to talk to representatives of bigger parties. There is a time limit for infant prodigies. The German TV team still always reports punctually when Mr. Avneri is due to speak, and it has been said unkindly that he has more supporters in Germany than here, and his trouble is that they cannot vote.

THE law will go through and the elections will be run, comparatively speaking, on a shoe-string. It is almost impossible to check all forms of expenditure, or to discover where every agora obtained by the big parties has come from, but the days of the big election circus are over. It should not be settled on the Old Boy system among the Knesset Members by themselves, when what is involved is their convenience. It can be argued that anything an elected body decides by vote is "democratic," but where cash for the parties or the members is involved there should be some contact and consultation with the public if the Knesset's freedom to get together and vote themselves more money is not limited in any way. One of the Ministers' drivers once joked with me, "they don't have to go on strike, they can decide their own pay." (Which is modest.) But one does not like the Government and the Opposition to get together in this oozy way on their own affairs: it is against nature and reminds one unpleasantly that the step from democracy to one-party dictatorship is very short.

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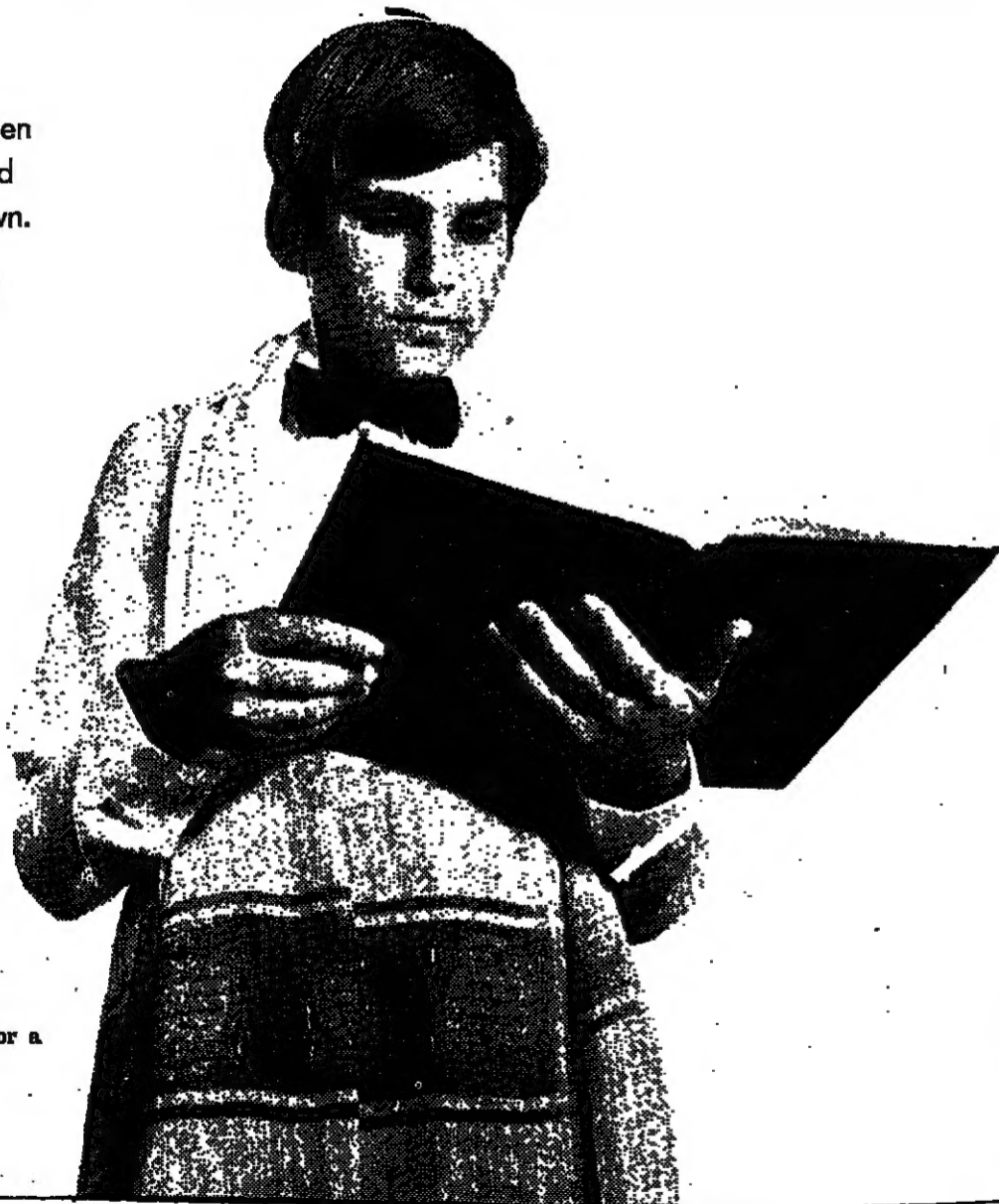
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Gaza port: increased volume, despite loss of "free port" status. (Newaphot)

(Newaphot)

Shati refugee camp: municipal services and political rights.

(Rubinger)

Gaza after Shawa

DASHAD Shawa's decision to defy the Military Government over the question of the incorporation of Shati refugee camp into the network of Gaza's municipal services came at a time when many were hoping that the inhabitants of Gaza and the camps were at long last seeing glimmers of light in the darkness. Few people anywhere have been called upon to endure the long agony of the Gazans: between 1948 and 1967 they were cut off from any hinterland, isolated in inglorious lack of splendour: for more than three years after that, they had to endure the anguish of terror and counter-terror. With the virtual elimination of the terrorists by the Israel Defence Forces, the crossing of the "green line" by 40,000 Gazan workers, and Shawa's success in developing the town and establishing contacts with Jordan, it seemed that the immediate future was bright. That future may still develop as expected, but it is a pity that prosperity will come as a hand-out from an appointed Israeli official, and not as a result of Shawa's own courage, ability, and initiative.

There are 350,000 Arabs in the Gaza Strip, of whom over 200,000 are refugees, living in eight camps. The city of Gaza has 120,000 inhabitants, about half of them being born Gazans, the others people who came to the city from various parts of Palestine before and during the 1948 war. The people living in the town are not regarded as refugees, even though they may have fled to Gaza.

The eight refugee camps are: Shati in Gaza itself, on the sea-shore, with 27,000 inhabitants; Jabalya and Dir el-Balah, just outside the city; Boreij, Mu'azzi and Nasserat in the South; Khan Yunis and Rafah, the last-named, with 40,000 inhabitants, being the largest. The municipal councils of Khan Yunis and Rafah without a murmur of entertaining Shawa's dark fears of a deep Israeli plot, agreed last month to provide services for their neighbouring camps.

During the 19 years between 1948 and 1967, the Gaza Strip was under Egyptian military rule. The people enjoyed no political right, not even municipal: despite the existence of a city hall, the Egyptians ran the place as one of their military camps. Few Gazans were allowed to cross the Suez Canal into Egypt; special permits were needed, and these were awarded with a tight hand. Hemmed in by Israel and the Sinai Desert, the

Haj Rashad Shawa, one of the most interesting Arab political leaders to gain prominence since the June, 1967 war, has been dismissed from his post as Mayor of Gaza. Anan Safadi and Philip Gillon fill in some of the background of Shawa's dispute with the Military Government.



(Garnel Sun)

Gazans were left to stew in their misery.

The camps, apart from policing, were left entirely to Unrwa. Since the conditions were so appalling, and misery and frustration so rampant, crime was widespread, and controlling it involved frequent curfews and the imposition of harsh measures.

Until 1948, Gaza had been prosperous, its primary sources of income being citrus and fishing. It was also an administrative and commercial centre of some importance. Many Arabs moved there in search of a higher standard of living. The refugees who flocked into the city as a result of the War of Independence came mostly from Jaffa, Migdal, and the southern towns and villages of what became Israel.

Isolation naturally brought grave economic consequences, although citrus-growing and fishing went on. To ease the burdens of the Strip, Egypt's late President Nasser gave the city some of the privileges of a free port: imports restricted in Egypt because of the austerity, could flow through Gaza. Goods came from all parts of the world, ranging from Mao's China to the U.S., Gaza served on a minuscule scale as the Hong Kong of Egypt.

Wealthy Egyptians went there to work, earn money, and receive money from abroad, without

their conferences in Gaza, so that they could bring presents home to the ladies.

The Egyptian armed forces, almost always in large concentration there, also spent considerable money in Gaza, thereby contributing to the town's economy. And local young Arabs, who had left home to work in the oil-rich states, dutifully sent money to their parents and relations in the Strip. But, if these parents were refugees, they were scared to spend the money on improving their living standards, lest this should endanger their very precious status as refugees with Unrwa. The money was hidden away, while they went on sking out an existence on Unrwa handouts. For political reasons, the Arabs decided that the Gaza Strip camps must remain static until they recovered their "rights."

The result was that the camps in the Gaza Strip remained frozen, islands of intense isolation in a general sea of isolation, focal points of misery and degradation. One of these camps was Shati.

The refugee camps on the West Bank, apart from that near Jericho, had a different fate. Having been incorporated within Jordan, people were allowed to travel, to work, earn money, and receive money from abroad, without

Unrwa or anybody else prying into their financial affairs, to decide whether they qualified as "refugees" under the Unrwa definition. They were not afraid to spend money on improving their homes. Many of the camps, therefore, took on the character of satellites or suburbs to nearby towns.

One remarkable feature is that the Arabs in the camps, contrary to the anticipations of some sociologists, had not developed a "refugee mentality." It had been suggested that they would prefer to live in misery on Unrwa handouts, and to talk over coffee about their grievances and their dreams of some day returning to their lost homes. Instead, they bucked down to work with will and energy; they relished the opportunity to earn plenty of Israeli *lira*, which they could spend on bettering their standards of living. Under Egyptian rules money was confined to the few; under Israel's Military Government, the workers — including the refugees — have never had it so good.

Israel's policy has crystallized: it now seems clear that the Gaza Strip will never go on its travels again, even if there are some who do not openly advocate annexation or incorporation. Terrorism has been defeated and the border between pre-1967 Israel and the Strip has lost its rigidity: Gazans no longer need permits.

In this atmosphere of political permanency, tranquillity and prosperity, there had been no

clear decision to annex or merge by osmosis or hold forever: Israel was then in the middle of expectations, a political solution seemed possible. Hence there was a tendency to maintain the *status quo*, to keep the Gaza Strip negotiable, and not create many new facts that might become an obstacle in any deal. As far as the refugees were concerned, the official policy was that of Prime Minister Levi Eshkol — they were a world problem, not an Israeli one.

Nevertheless, the economic and social problems of the refugees were examined by Israeli experts. And gradually, imperceptibly, the Arabs of the Strip began to get permits to cross the "green line" to work in booming Israel. This drift began even before it became an official policy. Once it was given the blessing of the authorities, it became a flood.

For some time, the efforts of the terrorists were aimed at preventing Arab workers from going into Israel: their targets became buses carrying laborers, and Labour Exchanges, through the vigilance of the Israel Defence Forces and the determination of the Arabs to work, this terrorist drive failed. Until recently, 20,000 Arabs from the Gaza Strip crossed the "green line" through the Labour Exchanges, and 20,000 did so unofficially.

GAZA'S isolation seemed to have come to an end in June, 1967, when the ties with Egypt were severed with startling suddenness by the Israel Defence Forces. The frustration and aspirations of some of the refugees found an outlet in terrorist activity; for three grim years, the Gaza Strip, in general, and the refugee camps in particular, were notorious centres of terrorism. The Military Government was preoccupied with restoring order. The population was hostile to the Israelis; Mayor Ragheb el-Alami and his council were summarily dismissed because of their reluctance to accept the situation. For about a year later Gaza was administered by an appointed Israeli, Uri Chechick, a former deputy mayor of Ashkelon, who is now back replacing Shawa.

The political future of the Gaza Strip was uncertain throughout this period. There had been no

permanency, tranquillity and prosperity. There had been no

GAZA

(Continued from page 7)

perity, it was only natural for Israel to turn to the question of municipal services for the camps. It was also inevitable that the authorities should suggest that camps geographically within urban limits, should get their services from the cities concerned. Technically, it is hard to conceive of any other practical solution. Shati must either be served by Gaza or do without.

Shawa has decided that the plan has sinister political implications. It must be stressed that his opposition to the Gaza City Council assuming responsibility for Shati is not based on technical or financial or social arguments — the objections are entirely nationalistic and political.

SHAWA is one of the most remarkable leaders to emerge among the Palestinians. A graduate of the American universities in Cairo and Beirut, he is no dreamer or braggart, no demagogic feeding his followers on distortions of the present and visions of the future. His family has lived for six centuries in the Gaza Strip, and has produced many of its leading citizens.

During the last period when Gaza was under Uri Chochick, a delegation of 8,000 Gazans called on Shawa, bearing a petition ten metres long, signed by a host of citizens, which implored him to take on the office of mayor. With some hesitation, he agreed.

Few posts in the world can be as difficult as that of Mayor of Gaza. On the one hand, he cannot work without cooperating with the Military Government; on the other hand, he is under constant pressure from the Arab governments and the terrorists. It is like being a trick rider in a circus, riding three horses at the same time. Shawa has managed the feat until his dismissal with distinction.

He gained the confidence of Minister of Defence Moshe Dayan, even though he made his views clear at all times — he believes that Gaza is Arab, and must remain Arab. His own dream is that the Palestinians should get some sort of state, perhaps federated to Jordan under a revised version of Hussein's federal scheme and living in such peace and cooperation with Israel that Israel will even grant a strip across the Negev to the Palestinians to link the Gaza Strip to the West Bank.

He broke through the curtain of Gaza's isolation by visiting Hussein and obtaining authority to issue 3,000 Jordanian passports to Gazans, a move for which he also got the approval of the Israeli authorities who appeared to have had no objection against the Gazans holding some official Arab identity which is recognized internationally.

In the municipal sphere, he has doubled the ordinary budget from IL2m. to IL4m. with a development budget of IL3.5m. He proposed to cover the difference by increasing rates; he also planned to get government loans and grants. On a trip to the Arab states, he sought markets for its citrus and other goods and capital for Gaza's development into a booming area that will not depend on labourers crossing the "green line." He got rid of a lot of municipal deadweight by reducing the staff from 446 to 370. His sewage and water master plans, involving IL30m. and IL7m. are models of their kind.

Shawa's relations with the Israelis came under strain when terrorist leader Yihad al-Husseini committed suicide in his home, where he had been hiding, for about a month; Shawa justified the giving of sanctuary to the

fugitive on the grounds that he had acted with good faith and without evil intentions, he had been negotiating at the time with the authorities to get peace in the Strip by inducing terrorist leaders to leave it peacefully. He was under extraordinary difficulties because of the security situation, and he was obliged by Arab tradition to harbour a man seeking sanctuary. After obtaining advice from the Attorney-General, Mr. Dayan accepted Shawa's explanation.

Through manoeuvres within the framework of leadership Shawa displayed great personal courage, integrity, and independence of mind. He has ignored terrorist accusations that he was a collaborator, and Egyptian criticism that he was a lackey of King Hussein, and was not set running by the bid on his life some two months ago. In regard to Israel, he has made no secret of his passionate belief that the Gaza Strip is not Israel and never can be; he has opposed the establishment of Nahal posts, and the deportation of Bedouins and refugees from areas in the Strip. He made no secret of his belief

that the Israeli occupation should end. Nevertheless, he has worked with the authorities for the betterment of Gaza, which is booming. Its past is expanding its streets humming with life. Mr. Dayan has said that he does not care what Arabs think or say or write, as long as they do not act contrary to the security of the state.

The question that has arisen this week was whether Shawa's refusal to incorporate Shati constituted such an act? Some Israeli observers believed it was, while arguing that Shawa not only should go, but even be deported. But it is as difficult to see why it should be so interpreted as it is to understand why Shawa should have chosen this issue as one of national and political importance.

He has argued that granting municipal benefits to Shati will endanger the political rights of the refugees, will lead to the world forgetting their claims. It is hard to understand this contention. Giving a man water and sewage and streets does not affect his political status in any way. It is true that such provi-

sion will reduce his misery, but many people think that a man like Shawa should realize that the policy of isolating the refugees in misery for 20 years, and is not likely to succeed now. It is very much out of character for a man like Shawa to accept the creed of using the refugees' misery as a political pawn.

If there is any merit in such a creed — which there is not — the cause is lost in any case. All over the West Bank, refugees are leading normal lives, their camps transformed into villages enjoying municipal services, without the people concerned abdicating an iota of their political aspirations or national beliefs. If the refugee issue ever gets on to the agenda of a peace conference, it is hard to believe that their claims will be lost because Shati has water and electricity.

It is a pity that Shawa has chosen this issue as one on which to make so firm a stand. During a period when the terrorists have been dealt such hammer blows by Israel and Hussein, and Sadat's leadership is in eclipse, the

Arabs have need of men like Shawa, academically trained and possessed of sense and judgement able to talk to the Israelis, without abating a whit of their national dignity and pride.

Shawa seems to think that he has mounted an Arab steed to charge the camps of the foes of his people. But in reality he is charging like Quixote at windmills.

In any case his decision serves neither Gaza nor Shati. For, neither place is really interested in being run by the Military Government, nor for that matter is this the Military Government's interest. But until these truths sink in there will probably be no alternative, and the Military Government will implement the plans that promise to improve services in the area.

Once the benefits of this for the refugees and Gaza are clearly seen, perhaps Shawa and those that think like him will understand that water and electricity can and should be apolitical, and political leadership, especially by someone like Shawa who has the confidence of his citizens, provides room for such distinctions.

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The Yugoslav experiment: successes and problems

By Dr. GALIA GOLAN



YUGOSLAVIA has been the most innovative and daring of the European socialist countries, but there is some question as to the success of this unusual experiment. Recent reports speak of trials and purges; observers hint at disintegration of the multinational federation; Belgrade students complain of the rebirth of capitalism. Together with this, the Soviet Union sits — perhaps not so idly — by in hopes that Tito's heirs will find solace only in the big brother to the East.

It was to this complex of problems and impressions that I tried to address myself on a recent trip to Yugoslavia, with the idea of comparing it with the more orthodox socialist countries. If one remains on the level of such a comparison, there is little doubt that the Yugoslav experiment has succeeded. The general atmosphere in the country is one of freedom — freedom to travel, freedom to hold dollar accounts, freedom to open a small business, freedom to speak one's mind. The economy appears to be booming; attractive stores are filled with both imported (Western) and local goods. Prices relative to salary compare favourably to those in Israel and housing is modern and increasing in supply. In fact, the major cities bear strong evidence of the plentiful contacts with Western Europe — so much so that one can become disoriented: is this a Western or a Communist country?

The question is not an easy one to answer, for the Yugoslav

experiment, while ever changing, rests on three innovations: a competitive "socialist" market system; self-management by workers to the success of this unusual experiment. Recent reports speak of trials and purges; observers hint at disintegration of the multinational federation; Belgrade students complain of the rebirth of capitalism. Together with this, the Soviet Union sits — perhaps not so idly — by in hopes that Tito's heirs will find solace only in the big brother to the East.

Market functions

The socialist market system is based on competitive enterprises which, though owned by the state, must stand or fall according to the market, i.e., they must produce according to supply and demand, catering to the public's desire regarding quality and variety. This competition is sharpened by the existence of private firms (permitted to employ members of one family and five additional persons) and foreign goods. Indeed, foreign investment is permitted, so long as 51 per cent of the company remains in Yugoslav hands. With such a "market" system, prices are, theoretically, flexible; wages are dependent upon profits; and losses are borne by the enterprise or factory itself. That is the model, and it has been copied, with certain modifications in Hungary and, briefly, in Czechoslovakia. Like all models, it has its flaws in practice. The government is not willing to see a plant fail and any number of measures, including subsidies, are used to compensate for failure to meet competition. Prices and wages cannot be permitted to rise haphazardly, so occasionally — fairly frequently — the government imposes ceilings or reductions.

Moreover, a certain degree of planning must be maintained, creating a constant struggle between central controls, through taxation and fiscal policy, and free competition.

In addition, politics (even of the Western "wheeling and dealing" type) intrudes with certain local governments — for example, by the grant of advantages, or intervention in the economic process. None the less, the overall thrust of the almost constant flow of new regulations and changes is towards a freely functioning market.

Regime's pride

The system of self-management, designed to run the competing enterprises, and indeed all enterprises in the country, including schools, museums, hotels and businesses, is the pride of the Yugoslav regime. Yet it, too, is far from perfect in its implementation. The self-management system means, simply, that an elected council of workers owns an enterprise for a two-year period, and the members of the council themselves appointing a manager and a managerial board. One soon discovers that the pertinent question regarding this system is not: do the workers really manage themselves, but rather, why do the workers not really manage themselves?

The answers vary, but they fall into several broad categories. The phenomenon apparent almost everywhere is management by

white-collar workers and the manager himself, who often holds his job for many years, receiving a decidedly higher salary than his workers. Some say this is because of the low level of the workers' general cultural-mental development. Workers are not equipped to handle the complex problems of management and therefore hand over their rights to the manager and his bureaucrats.

This thesis is supported on one side by the contention that modern technology naturally breeds rule by bureaucracy and technocracy; while on the other side it is argued that the workers themselves are in fact peasants (with families still living on the land), who cannot be bothered with the paraphernalia involved in exercising their rights. Akin to this is the explanation that the workers are lacking in a political culture or tradition of participation. Most of the peoples of Yugoslavia are of an authoritarian socio-political background, unused to and uncomfortable with the formal, organized intricacies of democratic participation. Then it is also said that the workers forgo their right to rule out of frustration, a feeling that their voice will make no difference.

This is generally attributed to the fact that there are still many people — both in the political and in the economic spheres — who are wedded to the old Stalinist concepts that held sway in Yugoslavia until 1948. These people continue to impose an autho-

ritarian system, thereby interfering in and destroying the system of self-management. Whoever of these explanations one accepts (and I suspect that a combination of several, if not all, would be the most accurate) the fact remains that it is more than propaganda when Yugoslavs maintain that their system provides — at least on paper — greater rights than are actually exercised.

Decentralization

This may be partly due, paradoxically enough, to the third innovation, the almost total decentralization of the country. The level at which decisions can be made having been lowered, the possibilities have increased for local political bosses to control their little "fiefdoms." Indeed, decentralization, intended to permit greater participation, has led to two major problems. The first of these is the fact that local autonomy is so great that within one city there may be school systems with different curricula and different hours; and medical facilities may vary drastically, both in cost and quality, from one hospital to another. Attempts by the central government to bring

(Continued on page 10)



Modern interchange at approach to Gazelle Bridge over the Sava River in Belgrade.



President Tito introduces Queen Elizabeth to his wife, Jovanka.

YUGOSLAV EXPERIMENT

(Continued from page 9)
 order to this often chaotic picture arouses protests against interference in the system of self-management and market socialism. And as this accusation is, basically, valid, some arms have introduced their own system for coordinating the various workers' councils.

This, however, demonstrates the second problem of decentralization: the power allotted to the individual areas or republics within Yugoslavia. This indeed is considered by many — primarily outside Yugoslavia — to be the major problem facing the country today. Recent constitutional amendments, in keeping with the principle of decentralization, have granted the five individual republics greater economic-social-political responsibility, with the result that not-so-intent national rivalries have once more burst into the open. These rivalries, the product of centuries of varied development, influences, and traditions from one republic to another, are felt mainly (though not solely) in the economic sphere. The economically and culturally more developed Slovenia and Croatia resent "supporting" the more backward Serbia or Montenegro. Thus, the riots in Croatia in 1971 revolved, to some degree, around resentment that foreign currency earned for the most part by Croatia should go into the federal budget, to be divided equally throughout the country. Croatian grievances reached such a pitch that Tito accused the Croatian Communist Party of having fallen into the hands of nationalists and separatists. He introduced a swift purge and a system of controls that made Croatia resemble the other Eastern European countries rather than the rest of Yugoslavia. While these controls probably are temporary, current trials of those involved in the Croatian events indicate Tito's continued concern that decentralization can go — and has already gone — too far.

Nationality problem

As to whether the persistent nationality problem will in the end destroy the federation (as it almost did in 1929), Yugoslavs are usually sceptical. Most people feel that even after Tito dies, the common fear of Soviet domination will bind the antagonistic nationalities together. None the less, there are Croatians who accuse the Serbs of wishing collaboration with their authoritarian Slav friends, the Russians, just as there are Serbs who accuse the Croats of seeking collaboration with the Russians in order to dismember Yugoslavia and create an independent Croatia. While it is true that the Russians do encourage Croat separatism, even to the extent of helping the fascist Ustashi, and that there are some Serbs who prefer the Bolshevik method of rule, relations with the Soviet Union are subject to a different set of criteria entirely.

THE negative attitude towards the Soviet Union is one of very few unifying factors in Yugoslavia. The Croats or the Serbs who find common cause with the Russians are today few and far between. Indeed, the overriding feeling is that whatever the situation in the country, and whatever the future, one must never let the country fall under Russian domination again. This said, Tito is none the less currently pursuing a rapprochement with Moscow. Such rapprochements — like internal liberalizations and clampdowns — have been periodic over the past 18 years, initiated some-

times by the Russians, sometimes by the Yugoslavs. The pressure one seems to have been prompted by economic requests which had fallen on deaf ears in Washington. Some Yugoslavs fear that they may now become economically dependent upon the Soviet Union, but there is little in Yugoslav foreign policy to justify such a fear, for the country's major interest continues to be independence. Leadership of the Third World remains one of Tito's great ambitions, and Yugoslavia's moves are dictated by apprehension of Soviet gains in this arena.

Support for Arabs

Thus, Belgrade supports the Arabs in the Middle East conflict despite a history of active interest in and even enthusiasm for the Jewish state. The population itself has remained impressed with Israel, almost contemptuous of the Arabs. People tend to explain the great gap between public sentiment and official policy by pointing to Tito's personal attachment to Nasser and, by extension, the Egyptians, and to his continued hopes for a Third World bloc. A more sophisticated explanation of Yugoslav policy in the Middle East holds that the Yugoslavs must struggle to maintain goodwill and possibly some influence in Egypt, lest the Russians achieve full control there. And it must not be forgotten that the Yugoslavs view a Russian free hand in the Mediterranean with almost as much apprehension as do most Western states.

When one comes to realize the vast difference between popular feeling and official policy in regard to the Middle East, one begins to think about the whole seemingly free system in Yugoslavia, and to wonder whether there is genuine freedom of expression and participation, through the self-management system, in the political sphere.

As in the economic sphere, a great deal of self-management and decentralization exists in the political sphere — at least theoretically, and theoretically there is room for competitive ideas. But even officially, there is no room for competing political groupings and no freedom to organize for political purposes beyond the authorized organizations, such as the trade unions and the Socialist Alliance — both of which are more or less appendages of the League of Communists. Nevertheless, the Yugoslav regime is not at all times, nor in all things, a dictatorship. The Party has decentralized its power; and the degree to which its members may intervene in everyday affairs — to dictate a plan or a curriculum, or propaganda — depends to a large extent upon the situation and the individuals involved. Thus, in a period of crisis, such as the recent Croat upheavals, the Party intervened swiftly and massively. On the other hand, intellectuals may at a given time find themselves with greater freedom in Slovenia than, say, in Croatia or Serbia, because of the people holding power in these particular republics or specific institutions in them. In vain does one search for simple generalizations, such as that Serbia is conservative, Croatia liberal. The situation and the personalities dictate the policy — except, of course, where Tito himself finds the matter important.

There is, however, a surprising absence of complaint about the limitations upon political activity and the instability of the oft-changing internal political line. This may be explained on one level by the relative well-being of the population — at least in

the cities — the all-important freedom to travel, the availability of Western goods, literature, culture, and tourists, and the possibility of movement and speech within the country generally, free of police supervision. On another level, it may be explained by a certain political culture common to most Yugoslav peoples, i.e., a tradition of individualism and a tendency towards authoritarian rule. There is no democratic tradition to speak of in the country, nor any tradition of orderly participation and collectivism. It may be, therefore, that the people accept the political limitation as an expected, somewhat mild, form of authoritarianism and prefer to operate on an *ad hoc*, individual basis (with wheedling and dealing and *protektzia* the order of the day).

This rather than demanding change or exploiting to the full those possibly cumbersome and slow yet democratic processes which are available to them through self-management. Moreover, when one compares the lot of the Yugoslavs to that of the Rumanians or the Poles, for example, one can hardly blame them for refraining from pushing too far.

Open questions

This is not to say that all is contentment in Yugoslavia. In addition to the quite serious nationalities problem already mentioned, there are many conflicts and questions connected with development and progress. There are the students who feel that Marx has been abandoned; there are the Party people who think that capitalism has been restored; there are the intellectuals who complain that bureaucracy has replaced humanitarianism; there are the architects of the Yugoslav experiment who despair over the many impediments to its smooth functioning. And there are those who feel unable to

publish or produce anything but the currently accepted line and others who feel that the population is being bought with Western goods and methods at the expense of spontaneous social progress and egalitarianism. Workers, too, complain of low wages and the need to do more than one job to make ends meet. Inefficiency plagues the market system possibly almost as much as it does the bureaucratic command economies. The list of difficulties is endless; but comparing it to the overwhelmingly politicized, centralized, authoritarian societies of the Soviet bloc, one cannot but feel that Yugoslavia has come a long way and that it holds a great deal of promise for socialism — subject to the trials and tribulations of a developing, Balkan, multi-national, one-party state.

Dr. Galia Golan, lecturer in Political Science and Russian Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, has written two books on Czechoslovakia. She is now at work on the comparative study of problems of Communism in Eastern Europe.

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Science against the criminal

More and more sophisticated techniques are being developed to fight crime. HELGA DUDMAN tells something of them.

THE B.B.C. interviewer wanted to know, "Can you experts identify, by their handwriting, the senders of envelopes containing explosives?" The man he was questioning was one of three Israelis who attended the Sixth International Meeting of Forensic Sciences at Edinburgh last month.

"I'll be glad to answer any questions I can, except that one," replied Dr. Arie Naftali. He has no intention of giving any hints about our techniques.

Even without that particular query there was, to put it mildly, no dearth of subject matter for Dr. Naftali, physician and former police officer, and his Israeli colleagues — Professor Heinrich Karpus, toxicologist, and Professor Irvia L. Fisher, chemist. For while violence is increasing the world over, helped along by technological advances, the techniques for investigating and analysing crime are becoming more and more sophisticated.

The three Israelis at Edinburgh represented three of the nine fields which now make up the forensic sciences (formerly called forensic medicine): chemistry, toxicology and questioned documents, which are Dr. Naftali's speciality. In addition there are biology, criminology, dentistry, jurisprudence, pathology, and psychiatry. The delegates from over 30 countries who attended the conference heard something like 300 papers.

Choice of location
 Violence even determined the location of the meeting, which had been originally scheduled for Belfast. Conditions there necessitated the move from Northern Ireland to Scotland. Violence, or at least its spectre, also determined the choice for the association's next meeting, for which Jerusalem (and the alternative, Australia) were rejected and Zurich was selected.

But psychiatrists from Belfast were in Edinburgh in force with such papers as "Aggressive Behaviour and Depression in Belfast."

THE complexities of the tools of violence today, and the counter-complexities of the tools of law and order, are positively mind-boggling. Here are titles of some other papers read at the meeting: "The survival of seminal constituents in the human vagina" and "Medico-legal application of red cell enzymes polymorphisms in Japan from the Biology section. In Toxicology, "Changing patterns of poisoning in India" and in Pathology, "Suicides in Geneva."

But of course, not all sudden death is intentional or criminally inspired, and modern technology also leads to human destruction when the aim is supposed to be the amelioration of our lives.

Two samples written by the same person in different emotional situations. The upper is in a normal, relaxed mood; the lower, in a tense condition (in this case—following immigration to Israel). The principle shown here played its part in a local court case involving a disputed will. The heirs contended that the lawyer

mechanization in modern life." Only here and there do the Pathology papers reveal the classic crime-story atmosphere: "An account of a case of methanol poisoning in a middle-aged female." "Homicide without any visible mark of injury." "Problems of acute poisoning." And of course the pathologist and the drug seer: "Evidence of permanent brain damage and other neuropathologic findings in narcotic addicts," from an American expert.

But pathology also permits a humanistic approach. It was made by Israel's Professor Karpus in a paper on the history of forensic medicine. Reporting on the symposium on Society, Medicine and Law held in Jerusalem last March, he noted such "Abortion and infanticide in Yugoslavia" and "Medical treatment viewed by Moslem law."

Immediately following Professor Karpus' summary in the published list of papers was one on "Forensic medicine and folk song," surely suitable even for the ladies accompanying their husbands to Edinburgh, though the one after that was "Weighing bodies without tears" ("A simple means of weighing bodies is presented, utilizing a hand winch and a 200 kg. hanging ment. No standing floor equipment is required...")

Crash problems
 The same procedures were discussed in a Pathology paper — also by a Canadian — which asked the question, "Identification of the passengers of a jet aircraft crash — necessary or not?" The answer, in part: identification of remains in simpler times was easier. But the crash of a modern commercial jet aircraft poses a much more difficult problem because of the large numbers of passengers from all parts of the world who may be on board, and the complete fragmentation and scatter of the remains... Public health considerations may dictate a rapid and dignified mass burial.

From an Indian pathologist serving "Some medico-legal observations on fatal vehicular accidents in Delhi," we learn that "the incidence of cranial-inferior injuries is on the increase owing to high-speed

right-handed person may distort the shapes of his letters, pulling them to the right in both scripts, while left-handed persons will distort the shapes of their letters to the left."

All this is far from purely academic. In one local case of homicide, Dr. Naftali — together with a psychologist, an orthopaedic surgeon and a neurologist — testified as to whether the accused could have fired the murder weapon with his right hand, as his defence rested on the fact that he was left-handed. The evidence was to the effect that he could have done so: although he was somewhat left-handed, he was also, like all of us, ambidextrous in many areas.

The French author of a paper on "Identification of documents written under the influence of drugs" insisted on Dr. Naftali reading it for him (all the papers were in English). Dr. Naftali eventually agreed, but prefaced his presentation by saying "I have no doubt been asked to read this because my heavy accent in English will make it sound more familiar for the many non-English delegates present."

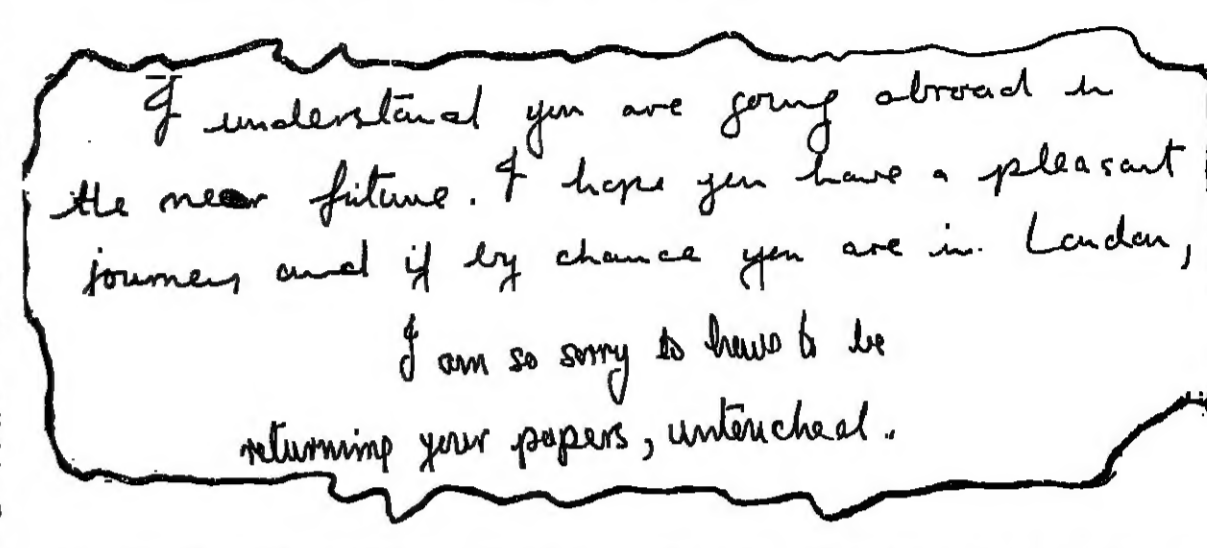
"ALL countries face similar problems in identifying the facts of crime," said Dr. Naftali, "and they include one area common to all, including Israel — the training of experts in these fields. The range of useful and interesting information covered at the meeting was enormous, and it would be highly desirable for more Israelis working in these professions to attend future meetings."

haviour" and will reflect differences in stress or "direction of activity."

Israel is an ideal laboratory for such study, Dr. Naftali points out, because we write both right-to-left and left-to-right; and because, furthermore, for some mysterious reason, the percentage of left-handed persons in Israel is slightly higher than that in Europe, and of course, right-or-left-handedness also plays its role in this analysis.

"It was observed," Dr. Naftali stated in his paper, "in the handwriting of persons writing Latin and Hebrew equally well, that through extrovert impulses such as temporary aggressiveness, the

IN one of the Questioned Documents sections, "Dr. Naftali's paper (following 'Anonymous letters written by Left hand,' by a French graphologist, and preceding 'Factors relating to the identification of masculinity and femininity in questioned handwriting,' by a British expert) dealt with 'The changing psychology of right and left in handwriting identification.' What is meant here is changes in the same handwriting — tending to slant sometimes more to the right, sometimes more to the left — as a reflection of changes in mood, since for the graphologist, 'handwriting' is be-



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CHRISTIAN COMMENT

Symposium at Tantur

OIKUMENIKOS gives an overview of the opening of the Ecumenical Institute for Advanced Theological Studies this month. There is also a report on a trip made by the Student Christian Forum, and a look at what is being done for Christian visitors to Israel.

"SALVATION in Christ, the Problem and the Promise" was the theme of the colloquium which officially inaugurated the work of the Ecumenical Institute of Theological Research at Tantur outside Bethlehem last month. This was an intellectual and spiritual project that had begun — with a provisional committee of Anglicans, Protestants and Catholics — in October, 1964, at the close of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council.

Addresses or critiques were given at the colloquium by renowned theologians from many parts of the world. They included professors from Yale, Chicago, and Stanford Universities, Harvard Divinity School and Perkins School of Theology, Texas; from Heidelberg, Bonn; from Belgrade, Bucharest, Athens and Thessalonica; from Paris and Neuchâtel; from Southampton, England and Varanasi, India; from the Catholic University of Chile and the National University of Zaira.

According to Father Theodore Hesburgh, president of the University of Notre Dame, Indiana and administrative director of the Institute, the purpose of study at the Institute was to delve deeply into the mysteries of salvation and to examine these so that they will have relevance for the people of today's world.

Prof. Charles Moeller, under-secretary of the Congregation of the Faith in Rome, declared that the main purpose of the Institute was to engage Christian scholars in the study of the problem and the promise of salvation. He emphasized the international character of the scholarly community which, because it transcended national characteristics, would also investigate the religions of the world, for the problem of concern and study was the "salvation of man," God, in search of man.

The newly elected vice-rector, Prof. Jean Jacques von Allmen, opened his remarks with the reminder of "the challenge of Jerusalem." As well as Christian theology, he said, it would be necessary to plumb the mystery of Israel and not neglect, either, the study of Islam.

Interests among the fellows and scholars are varied. Alexander Bronkhorst of the Dutch Reformed Church is interested in dialogues with Jews and Moslems. Presbyterian Charles Carleton plans to research on Wisdom while Prof. Simon de Vries, a Presbyterian, will study the roots of European anti-Semitism in relationship to the problem of heresy. Jewish-Christian-Muslim dialogue is the primary interest of Prof. Allen O. Miller, who will represent the United Church of Christ at Tantur in late November. A member of the

reconstituted group of the Disciples of Christ, David Balch, a Yale doctoral candidate, is interested in learning about Judaism and life in Israel as he studies the social problems associated with conversion to Christianity in the Hellenistic milieu. Prof. James Sanders, Auburn Professor of Biblical Studies at Union Theological Seminary in New York, is an expert in the Dead Sea Scrolls and in canonical criticism and comparative midrash, and has taken an active part in Jewish-Christian conversations in the U.S. Dr. William Watters, Jr., a Methodist minister who will come to Tantur in 1973, is also especially interested in Jewish-Christian relationships and in interpreting Judaism to Christian groups.

Theological Fraternity

THE Ecumenical Theological Fraternity began its new year's programmes last week, in a session at the Gobat American Institute Building on Mount Zion. Dr. Joseph Heinemann of the Hebrew University spoke on "The Origins and the Nature of Jewish Worship." The theme for the year, "Monotheistic Worship," was chosen to turn the attention of members and guests to the question of the meaning of the coexistence in Jerusalem of the three great monotheistic faiths. This theme was decided upon since it was thought that the faiths themselves are most clearly visible to each other through the medium of prayer and worship.

A visitor from the U.S. present at the session was Msgr. John M. Osterreicher, who is known for his work on the formulation and implementation of the Second Vatican Council's Declaration on the Jews. One of the American bodies engaged in implementing the declaration is the Institute of Judaic-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University, New Jersey. Another is the Menorah Institute, which proposes to search for truth on matters of common concern to Christians and Jews; to foster a renewed vision of the Christian's bond to the Jewish people; to deepen understanding and appreciation of present-day Jews and the State of Israel; and to stimulate a change in attitude through the acquisition of basic knowledge of Judaism, and of Christianity's relationship to Judaism.

Visitors

THE Christian Visitors to Israel programme was launched formally by the American Jewish Committee in April, 1972, because it had become evident that the existing programmes under the auspices of various Jewish and Israeli organizations, were not fully meeting the needs of Chris-



Heads of Christian churches in festive procession at the Ecumenical Institute for Advanced Theological Studies' official inauguration ceremony last month.

tian leaders and leadership groups visiting Israel. For several years, the American Jewish Committee had been receiving an increasing number of requests for assistance from Christians desiring to see Israel for themselves. Responding to these requests, they were able to render assistance to a significant number of prominent Christians. A Christian Editors tour of the Middle East in the winter of 1970 is one such example. Out of it came better understanding and increased good will for Israel, not only on the part of the individuals involved, but for the large reading audience reached by them.

Among the prominent individuals who have visited Israel this year was Congressman Robert L. Drinan of Massachusetts, the first Catholic priest to be elected to the U.S. Congress, who wanted to see, at first hand, the problems of Soviet Jews arriving in Israel.

Concrete results of his visit are reflected in Father Drinan's active advocacy in Congress of the speedy passage of the Soviet Jewish Refugee Assistance Act of 1972, his numerous speeches and articles on Soviet Jewry, and his pressure upon the "Voice of America" to do more to combat anti-Semitic broadcasts from the U.S.S.R.

Another important visitor, brought here by the American Jewish Committee together with the Government Tourist Office, was Father Malcolm Boyd, the best-selling writer and Episcopal priest, who reaches a large American audience, especially on the campus. One result of his visit was a cover story in the magazine "Travel Scene."

One of the projects under the aegis of the ecumenical tour, called a "Journey for Peace Symposium," which took place this month. Sponsored by the American Baptist Home Mission Societies, it was made up of leaders of Protestant, Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Jewish and Moslem communities in the U.S. It is hoped that this tour — the first major effort involving liberal American Protestants under the aegis of the Baptist group — which included nine days in Israel as well as visits to Rome, Turkey and Egypt, will help to enhance Protestant leadership understanding of Israel and her people.

Another U.S. group, the Graymoor Ecumenical Institute "study tour on reconciliation in an area of conflict," is due here next week. Led by Father Charles Angell, editor of the Christian Unity magazine, "The Lamp," this group will include some 30 participants, lay and clergy, active in various Christian communities, and institutions and in the press.

Conference

THE annual conference of the United Christian Council in Israel will take place at

the Church of Scotland, Sea of Galilee Centre in Tiberias, from Monday, October 30, to Wednesday, November 1.

This year's conference has as its theme "The Church and its Changing Ministry." The Council is composed of 17 member bodies of Protestant churches and agencies. Its primary object is to work together with all Christian churches and agencies for the extension of the Kingdom of God, for the deepening of Christian fellowship and the strengthening of Christian

leadership groups visiting Israel. For several years, the American Jewish Committee had been receiving an increasing number of requests for assistance from Christians desiring to see Israel for themselves. Responding to these requests, they were able to render assistance to a significant number of prominent Christians. A Christian Editors tour of the Middle East in the winter of 1970 is one such example. Out of it came better understanding and increased good will for Israel, not only on the part of the individuals involved, but for the large reading audience reached by them.

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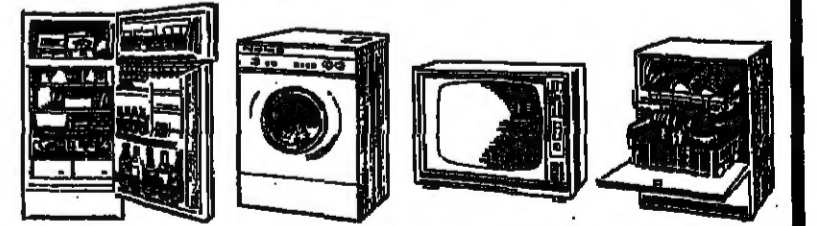
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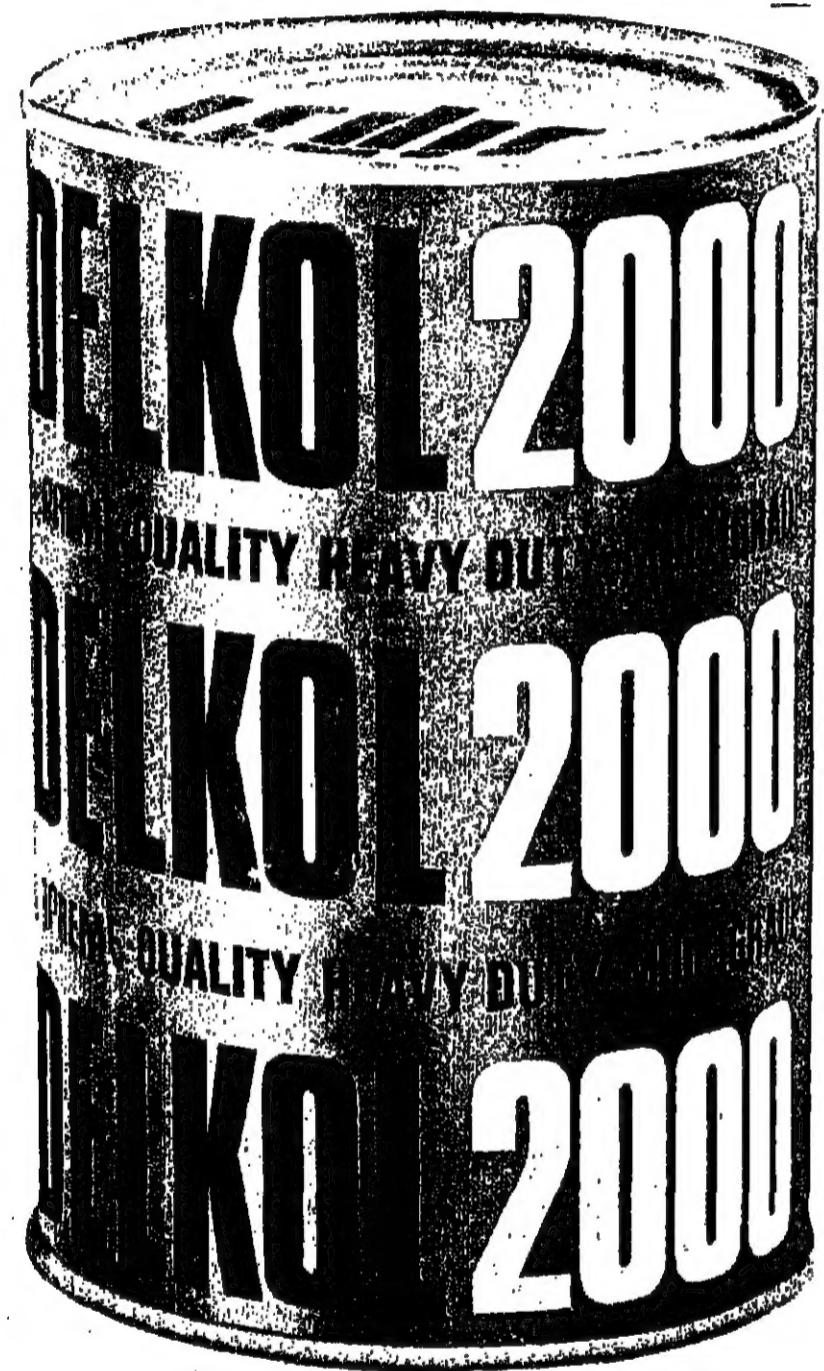
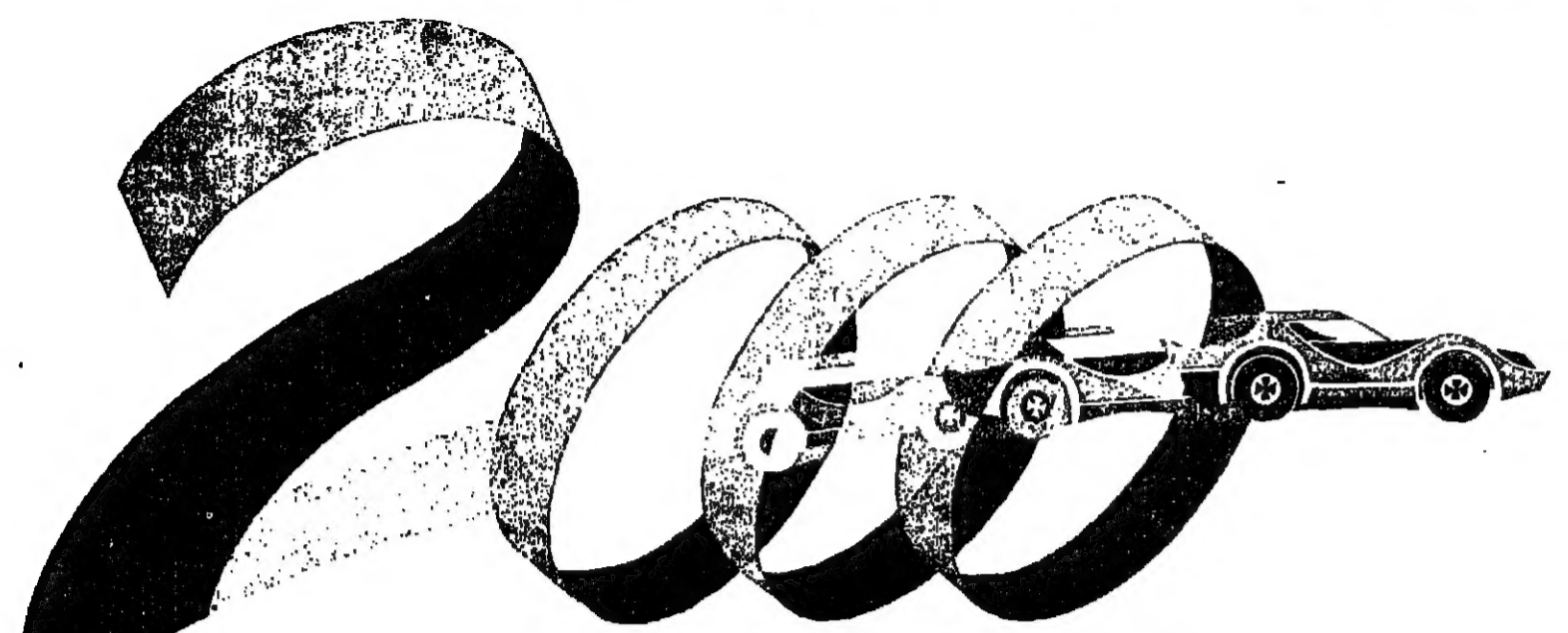
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THE ORACLE

By EPHRAIM KISHON

THE basketball crisis reached a new high the other week when the trainer of the national team clashed with the Basketball Committee of the Sports Authority over the tactics he had used during the recent European debacle. The members of the committee advocated the "individual interference" method, while the trainer obstinately stuck to "area interference," claiming that only this method was effective in a game where most of the opposition players were about two metres tall, while the average of our players was 28 years. Three meetings had already taken place in an attempt to settle the dispute and there had also been contacts with middle-echelon government officials, but neither party would budge an inch from its position.

"Well," they said in the end, "let's see Golda..."

It had been inevitable from the outset. As a matter of fact,



this logical step even had some parliamentary-administrative elements in its favour, because, since sport as such has no official standing in our country and therefore lacks a sponsor, it naturally belongs, like so many other matters, under the umbrella of the Prime Minister's office.

The meeting with Golda could only be arranged by the personal intervention of the Director-General since the Prime Minister had an extremely crowded schedule that week, having to deal with the teachers' salary demands, the cost of living index, the doctors' strike and Lansky. But in the end, the Prime Minister agreed to the meeting, and the group filed into her office at 7.30 a.m. sharp.

First there was a brief ceremony. The chairman of the Basketball Committee, visibly moved, greeted the Prime Minister on behalf of Israel's basketballers and voiced the hope that the Prime Minister would find her way to breathe life into this important sport, as only she, Golda, sorry, the Prime Minister.

Here the Prime Minister interrupted the speaker.

"All right, all right," she said, smiling cordially, "but why did you pick on me?"

The trainer of the national team took the floor and, with a slight tremor in his voice, addressed the Prime Minister. He said that the quarrel was about, i.e. that he was for area interference, as this made possible an effective blocking in

the case of technical superiority. After this, the head of the commission outlined to the Prime Minister the advantages of individual interference, which prevents sudden breakthroughs in the wings.

"That is the situation, madam," the chairman summed up, "and now the decision is in your hands."

The P.M. surveyed the opposing camps, visibly amused, and shook her head, signalling that she did not understand what was the big problem.

"I think both methods are quite acceptable," she said. "Why couldn't you use both?"

It was as if an electric current had passed through those present. Yes, by golly, this was the woman's greatness, that she always found the only possible compromise even in the most complicated situations! Really, why hadn't they thought of it until now? A merger of the two methods! That was bound to give a quite different direction to the development of this important sport. The delegation felt greatly relieved, their faces broke into wide grins.

The P.M., in excellent spirits, related that she too, on her doctor's prescription, was engaging in sport: she was doing calisthenics every morning lying on her back in her bedroom, and they were doing her a world of good.

"By the way," she asked, "what is basketball?"

"It is a struggle between two camps," her bureau chief exclaimed. "Each camp attempts to throw and pass the ball against the other's fierce opposition, through a wide hoop (the "basket"), suspended from a tall pole..."

Instructions were given to bring in the ornamental basket which had been prepared especially for the event. The pole with its marble plaque and its basket woven of silver thread was brought in from the lobby and the trainer of the national team demonstrated some typical throws while dashing towards the basket. Clouds of dust arose in the room. The P.M. cleared her throat gently and motioned with her hand, coughing, that they should stop this nonsense.

"Don't run about," she coughed. "Throw it without jumping around like maniacs!"

The trainer stopped dead in his tracks on hearing these words. But... but... this was the basic idea of the famous "Harvard system"! Instead of throwing the ball while running towards the basket, shoot while standing still on the ground! The trainer exchanged meaningful glances with his assistants and whispered the three words which were to mould Israeli basketball in the coming decade:

"As of now, we'll shoot without jumping!"

It had become a solemn occasion indeed. They all felt that the brief visit whose aim had been to settle a trifling misunderstanding, was about to bring forth fruit they had never dreamed of.

"Shouldn't we get her to pick the boys for the Selected?" the enthusiastic chairman whispered into the ears of the trainer. On the latter's nodding assent, he respectfully requested the P.M. to point out the players who in her view were worthy to represent our country at international meetings.

"But," the P.M. said, "I don't even know them."

Thereupon a group photo

taken in training camp was placed before her. It was a big photo in an ornamental frame prepared especially for the occasion. The Prime Minister's glance swept with maternal pride over the sturdy boys: yes, this was a different Jewish youth, vigorous, sports-loving...

"That poor fellow," she suddenly sighed. "They're all powerful, well-built, except this one in spectacles — he's as skinny and tall as a beanstalk. Why did you take him? These gangling fellows move so awkwardly..."

And so the country's best player was dropped from the national team. The delegation was somewhat worried. On the trainer's face could be clearly read the severe inner struggle

between orders from above and certain professional principles. In the end, the man swallowed hard and in a whispered stammer said something to the Prime Minister about certain advantages enjoyed by players over two metres in scoring baskets.

"Only a real giant can actually reach the rim of the basket," he explained, "because the basket is suspended very high."

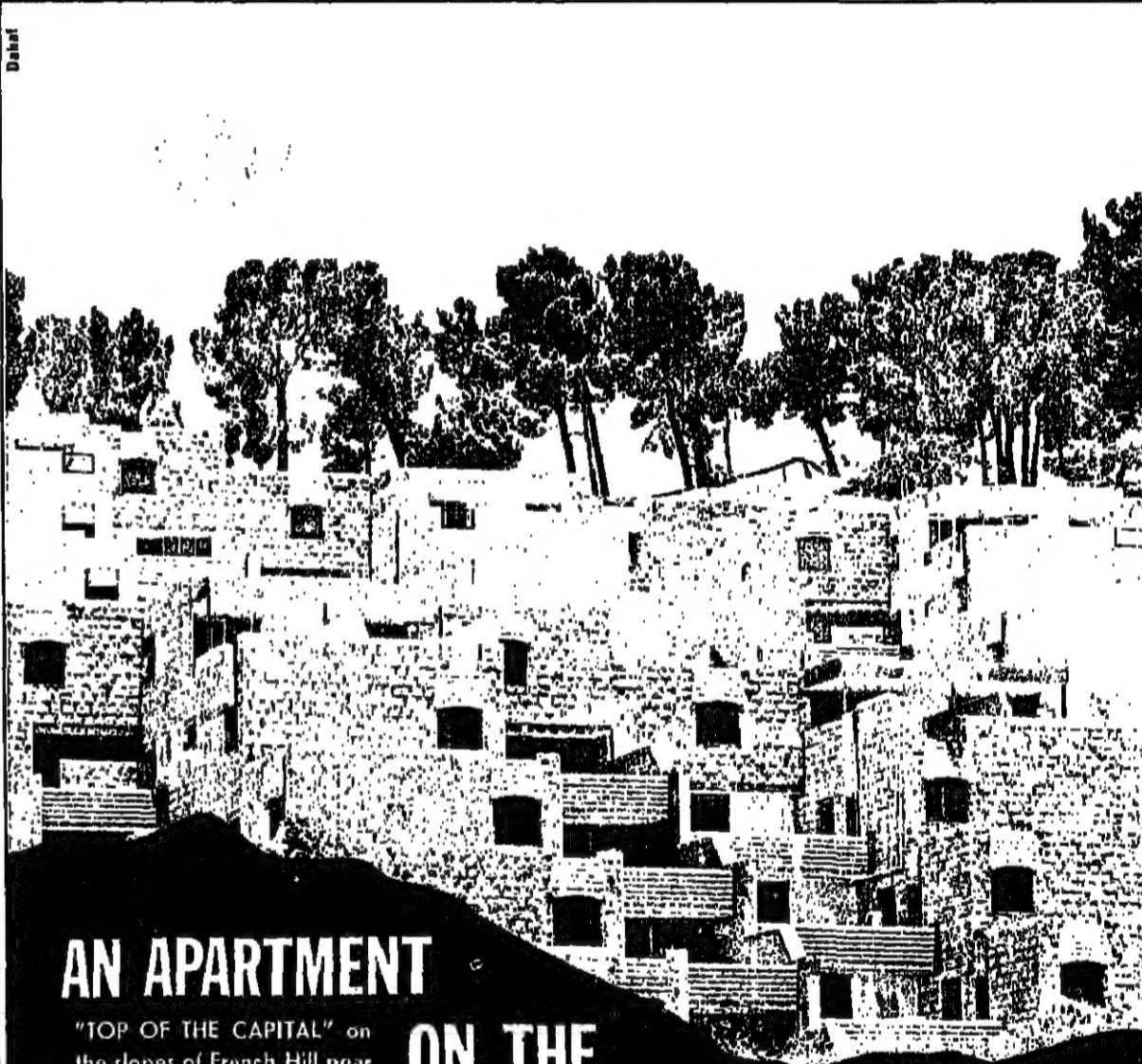
"So you'll have to lower it," the P.M. decreed. "It would be unjust to discriminate against the short ones..."

At this point, the secretary came in and announced that the Chief of Staff was waiting outside. The delegation expressed their thanks for the important rulings made during

the solemn occasion and left the office overcome by emotion. Once they were outside, the dispute was naturally renewed, because the members of the committee interpreted the Prime Minister's directive to mean that all the country's baskets would have to be lowered immediately by at least a metre while the trainer of the national team insisted on a maximum of 35 cm. — and even that, in his opinion, would be commented on adversely abroad.

The discussion degenerated into insults and the two parties separated in a new atmosphere of crisis. It seems the P.M. will again have to intervene in person.

Translated by Yohanan Goldman by arrangement with "Ma'ariv"



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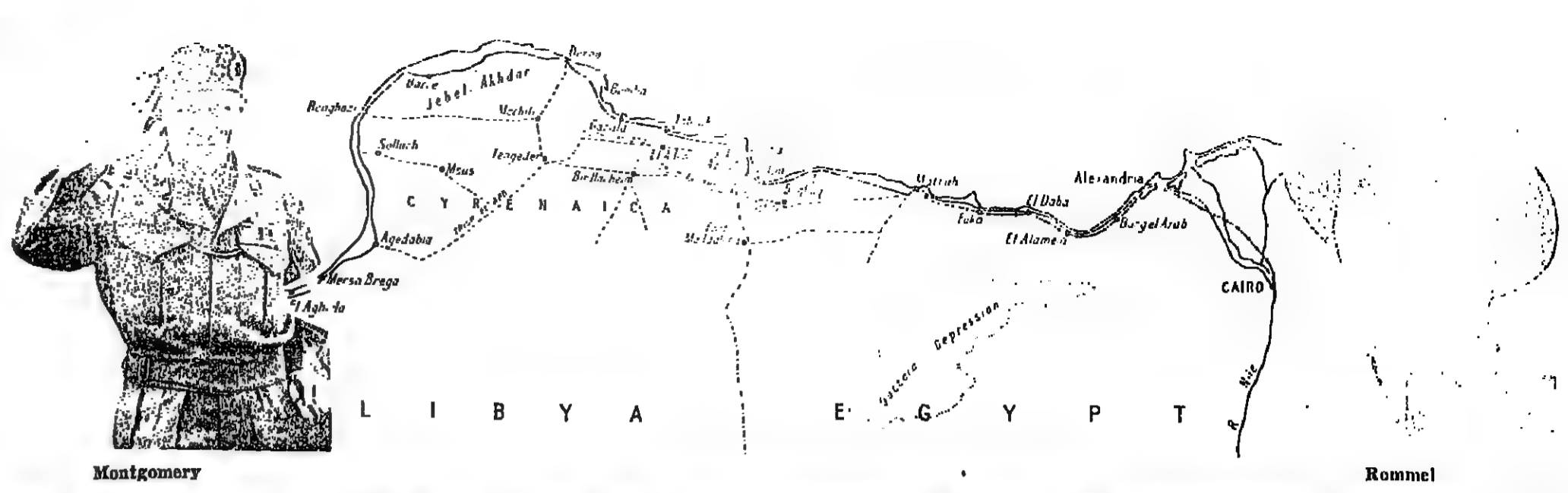
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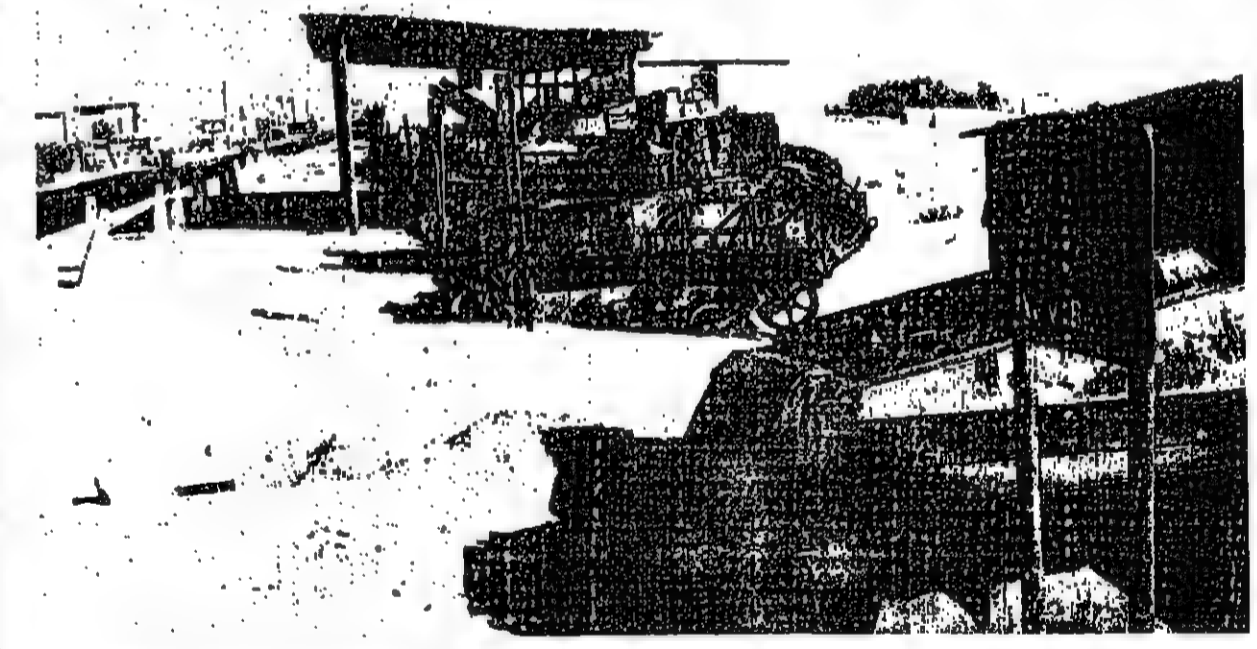
The legend of El Alamein

EL Alamein is commonly regarded as one of the turning points of World War II, and has captured popular imagination through its identification with two of the most famous generals of that war: Rommel, whose name has become synonymous with daring and initiative, and Montgomery, whose inspiring leadership of the Eighth Army has become one of the legends of modern military history. However, it is time to ask: Just how great were these two as commanders? Just how critical was the battle of El Alamein for the outcome of the war? Was it in fact necessary at all? To answer these questions we should not concentrate exclusively on the battle itself; it is necessary to trace in outline the chain of events that led to it.

More than a quarter of a century has passed since the end of World War II, and the passage of time enables us to see the great issues of that conflict with greater clarity. Some of the most important of these, writes Dr. MARTIN VAN CREVELD, are connected with the battle of El Alamein, the 30th

anniversary of which is observed this week. The writer, a lecturer in modern history at the Hebrew University whose book on Axis strategy is soon to be published by Cambridge University Press, suggests that the crucial nature of the battle and the qualities of its commanders have been overestimated.

Rommel had two Italian divisions of doubtful value. In March, 1942, Rommel started another of those spectacular offensives for which he became famous. Throwing his opponent, General Neil Ritchie (on whom command of the Eighth Army had ultimately devolved after O'Connor was taken prisoner by the Germans early in 1941), off his balance, Rommel quickly recaptured the territory he had lost in the previous year. By mid-June, he was once more in front of Tobruk, but this time there was to be no protracted siege. Employing bold and novel tactics, Rommel used his dive bombers to blow a path through the minefields which had withstood seven months of attempts to breach them. And within 24 hours, on June 21, the garrison, numbering upwards of 33,000 men, surrendered. Promoted to field marshal, Rommel pursued the disintegrating Eighth Army. But the strain of his tremendous advance was beginning to be felt. Relying on speed and sheer bluff, Rommel succeeded in pushing on to El Alamein, where his almost exhausted forces arrived in the middle of June with just nine serviceable tanks and no petrol.



Wreckage of tanks at roadside in Egyptian town of El Alamein today. (Forum World Features)

The struggle in North Africa started when Italy declared war on France and Britain on June 10, 1940. The obvious strategic objective of the Italians in the Mediterranean was, of course, the important complex of communications represented by Egypt and the Suez Canal. However, although he had troops immediately available for an attack in this direction the Italian commander in Libya, Marshal Rodolfo Graziani, was in hurry to advance against the British. It took Mussolini three months and several threats of dismissal to get him moving; but in September he did move, and in the middle of that month his forces occupied Sidi el Barrani, some sixty miles inside Egypt. There he halted, erected a monument to his own glorious feat of arms, and proceeded in a leisurely fashion to prepare the next stage in his advance.

Counter-attack
The British commander in Egypt, General Richard O'Connor — who had been Military Governor in Jerusalem just before the war — had felt compelled to husband his meagre forces and allow the Italians to advance almost without opposition; now, however, he decided on a counterattack. By early February 1941 this brilliant commander had cleared the Italians right out of Egypt, Cyrenaica and part of Tripolitania. The Eighth Army was just being prepared for an assault on the last major Italian stronghold in North Africa, Tripoli, when an order came for it from London to halt.

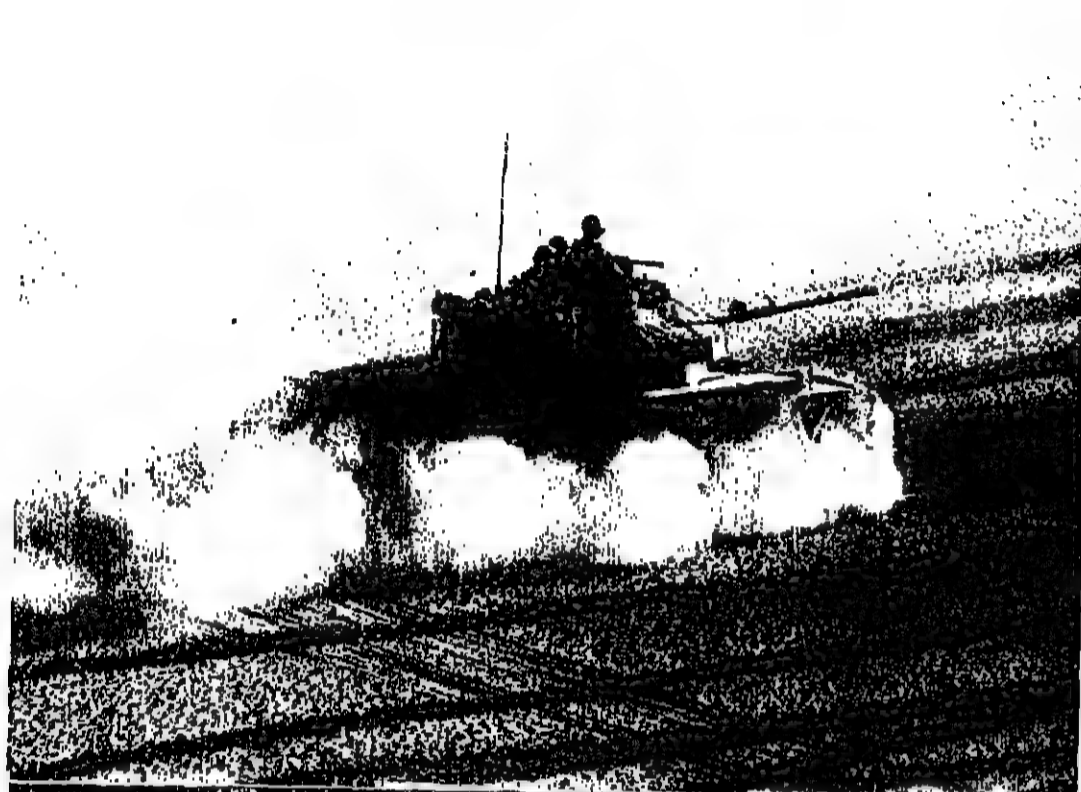
North Africa, the Italians had not been idle elsewhere. On October 28, 1940, they attacked Greece. But the Greeks fought back manfully and in January Hitler was planning to come to the aid of his hard-pressed ally in the Balkans. To counter this threat Winston Churchill, disregarding the advice of his Chief of Staff, decided to send forces to Greece. The only troops available were O'Connor's, and overruling all protests Churchill withdrew three of his divisions for Greece, thus causing the British offensive against Tripoli to grind to a halt.

which was exploited by Hitler to pump in his own troops. On February 11, 1941, the first German detachments, commanded by a brilliant young lieutenant-general named Erwin Rommel, started landing at Tripoli. Rommel was a great tactician and a superb leader; however, his dynamism sometimes got the better of his strategic sense. Having been ordered by the German High Command to submit his plans for a limited attack on the British by April 10, he advanced without warning on March 31 and within a month had thrown the British out of Libya — with the exception of Tobruk, which he invested but failed to take — and reached the Egyptian frontier. But these successes failed to make Berlin happy. Were it not for Rommel's unscheduled attack, the British might have sent even more forces to certain doom in Greece.

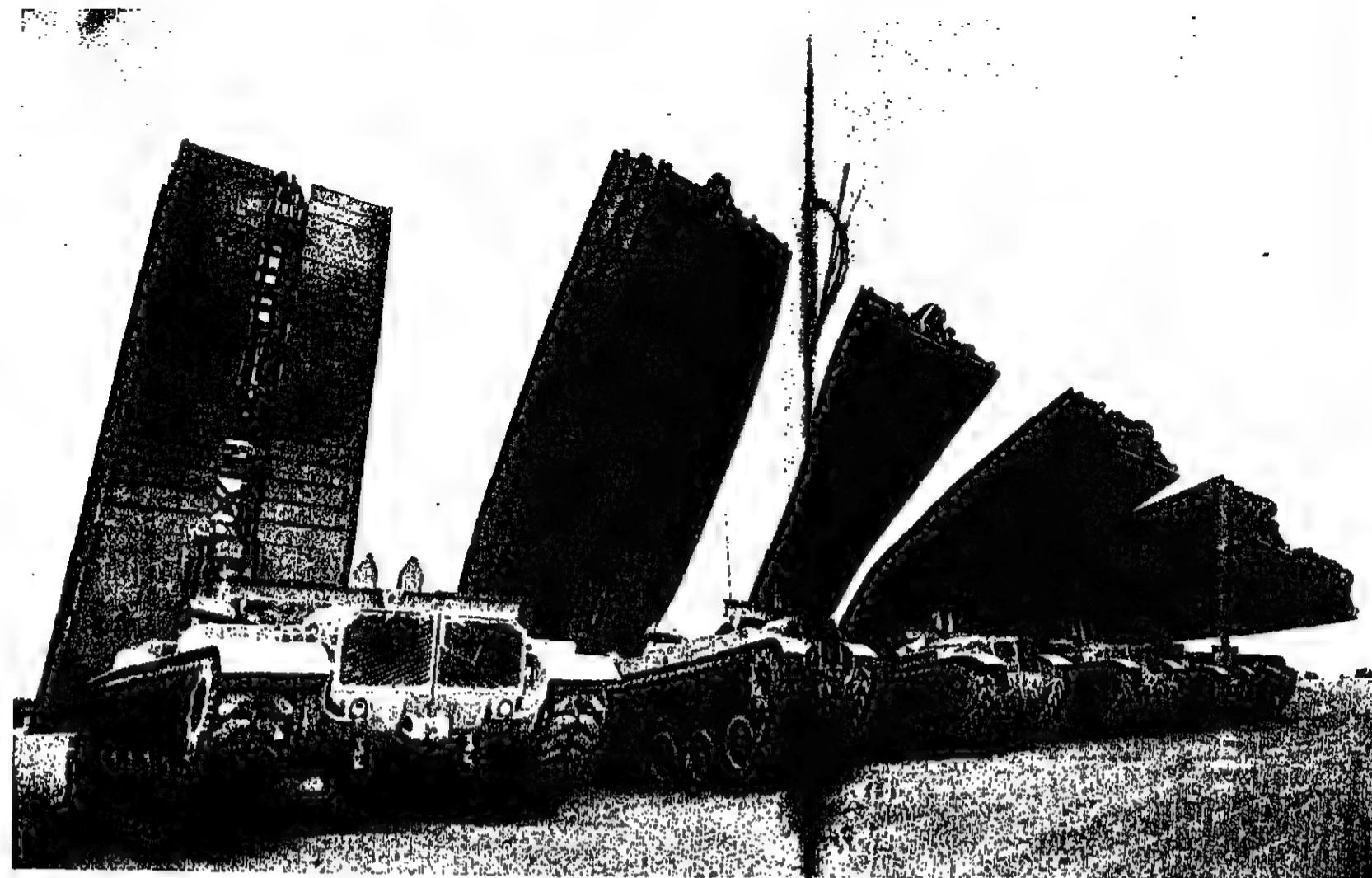
Back at start
In May, 1941, the opposing armies, German and British, were facing each other on a line roughly corresponding with the Libyan-Egyptian frontier, with Tobruk forming an enclave in German-occupied Cyrenaica. Throughout the rest of that year the battle swayed to and fro, but early in December Tobruk was relieved and by the end of the month Rommel was back in El Agheila, not far from where he had started. The two armies were now very much stronger than they had been at the outset of the struggle. O'Connor's original Western Desert Corps had expanded into the Eighth Army, and the Germans now had some four divisions instead of the original one. In addition,

Precarious position
Yet, in fact, Rommel had inadvisedly thrust himself into a very precarious position. For the first time since he arrived in Africa, he was now facing a continuous front which could not be outflanked. All previous lines put up against him had necessarily petered out somewhere in the desert and could thus be circumvented from the south; now he was facing an enemy who could base himself on a 64-km. front stretching southwest from El Alamein to the impassable sands of the Qattara Depression. Moreover,

ARMOUR DAY



Centurion tank, in left photo, raises dust. At lower left, tank crews head for their vehicles.



Forms of American-made M-48 A-2-C bridge-laying tanks during recent manoeuvres in Sinai.



Photos of Israel's Armoured Corps, which observed its annual 'day' this week, are by Photo Editor DAVID RUBINGER.



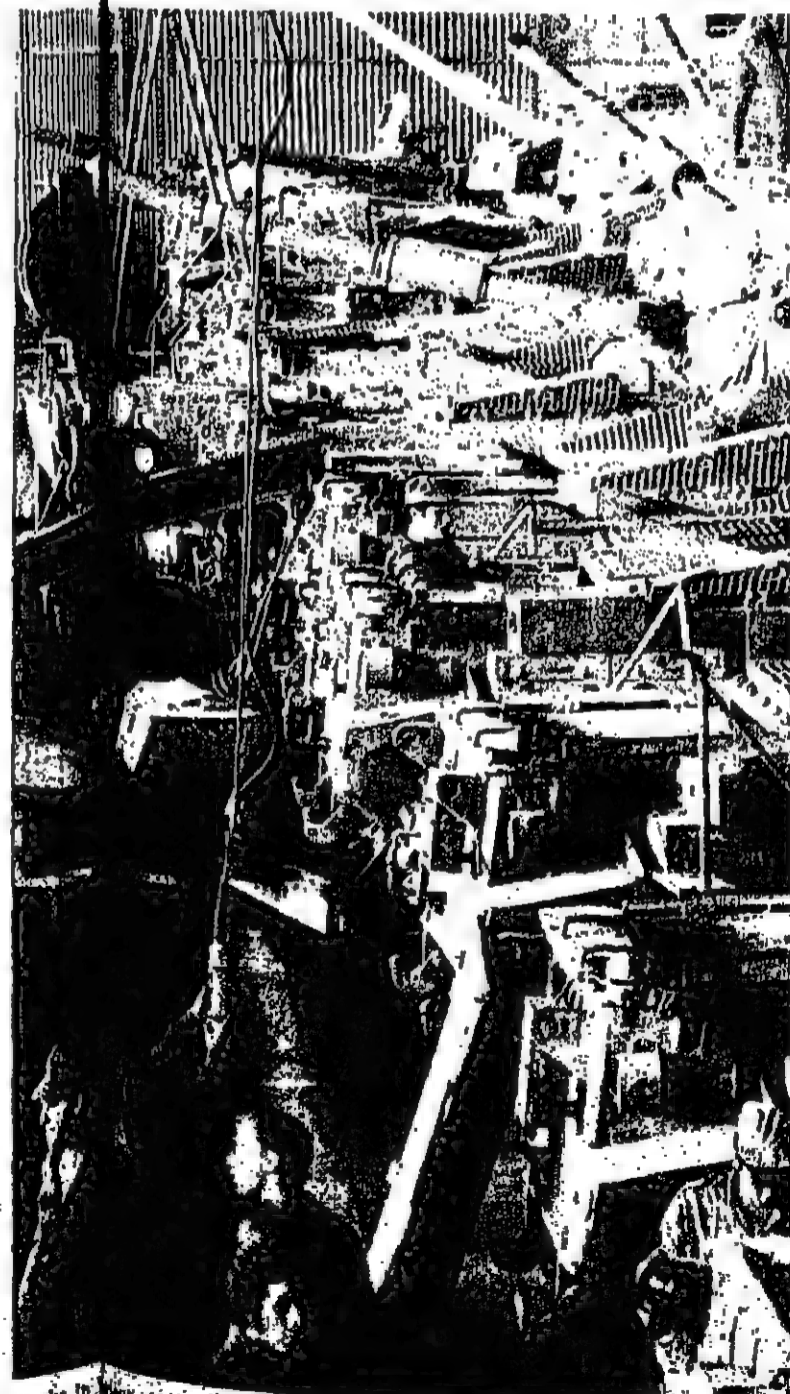
Members of the Armoured Corps entertainment troupe, at a position in the Sinai Desert.



Aluf Avraham (Bren) Adan, O/C Armoured Corps.



Crews rush to put up camouflage netting during exercise.



Tanks in various stages of repair at Armoured Corps workshops.



The other enemy at Suez

NIMROD is a lieutenant in the Tank Corps. He is responsible for the lives of some three-score men, for millions of pounds worth of equipment, and for the defence of a strategic section of Israel's frontier with Egypt on the Suez Canal. Nimrod is 21 years old.

Armoured Corps Day brought a welcome change for Nimrod and the men of his tank company — a visit from an "outsider," the first unusual thing that has happened in the post for weeks. The last Egyptian shell, which fell at the Canal 28 months ago, signalled the end of intense public interest in the men who guard the Canal. No longer do they receive gifts or visits from the Soldiers' Welfare Committee. No longer do they have to play host to newsmen and foreign donors, eager to get a glimpse of "Israel's war." Life has become a battle against boredom, a battle against demoralization, fought by young men who have to spend months on end in an isolated fortified outpost, hundreds of miles away from any major centre of activity.

Nimrod and his men are stationed near the southern terminus of the Suez Canal, where it flows into the Gulf of Suez. A decapitated statue of the Canal's builder — Ferdinand de Lesseps — and the ghost town of Port Tewfik stand quietly in the hot Sinai sun. On the other side, the Egyptians keep on building fortifications, possibly dreaming about, or dreading, the day they will be ordered to oust the Israeli conquerors. In the meantime, however, the scene remains serene.

The public apparently has forgotten that Armoured Corps outposts like this one are the deterrent which keeps the Egyptians on the other side of the Canal. But the army has not forgotten them; it has expended great effort to break the tedium. Over 100 films are distributed weekly by the Armoured Corps' Education Officer in Sinai; each outpost has its own projector. Now and then a lecturer arrives, to provoke discussion and argument. Army troupes and civilian singers — who appear as part of their reserve duty since they no longer volunteer — make regular rounds. But these activities fill only very few of the 500-odd hours the men are awake each month. How the rest of the time is spent is totally dependent on the company commander's imagination.

"One of the biggest problems we face," Nimrod told me, "is finding an effective antidote for 'beduinism' — the official army medical term for chronic apathy. Let a man spend too much time on his back and he loses interest — first in his personal appearance, later in his tank, and finally in himself."

To counter this, Nimrod makes sure that his men lead a well-disciplined life. They are up early in the morning. After physical training, they prepare for morning inspection. Those not spic and span will have another inspection later in the day. The tanks then receive their daily care — each nut and bolt, each piece of equipment must be in perfect condition.

The Suez Canal front has receded from the headlines, and from public attention, since the cease-fire went into effect in August, 1970. Post Military Correspondent HIRSH GOODMAN visited an Armoured Corps post on the waterway this week, and witnessed the ongoing battle against 'Beduinism,' or apathy.

The tiny outpost is a model of order and cleanliness. The sleeping quarters, offices and service units — all housed in bunkers — are neat. The floor is spotless. The crews don't have personal lockers, but everything is in place. The waterless toilets don't smell bad at all. Painted signs dot the outpost, telling you that a shed full of stacked equipment is a storeroom, and the place with a stove inside is the kitchen.

Painting superfluous signs and whitewashing stones are more than part of the desperate battle to keep the men from slipping. They are also a means of ensuring that the outpost does not degenerate into a health hazard — a serious danger when dozens of men eat, sleep and live in a confined space, with minimal sanitary conditions.

Nimrod has used his own spare time on his hands to bring the men under his command up to officer level. The company's officers give daily lectures, repeats of those they themselves received at officers' training school. By teaching the men such subjects as topography, they have managed to build up a team of highly-trained professionals adept in every field connected with the tanks they have to man. Drivers have been taught to be gunners and vice versa, and complete interchangeability has been achieved.

One feels that not a minute goes wasted in the outpost. It is a perennial hive of activity, from the minute the men wake to the time the lights go out. This has not necessarily made the young company commander popular with his men, but they respect him for it, a respect he has earned.

Nimrod's company is typical of the many stationed at the Canal zone. Their lives are hard, and the service they are doing the country is great. They spend several months in outposts, and then get pulled back for several months' training — also in Sinai. So pass three years. While on the front, they spend three weeks on duty and one week at home... one week in which to make up for the best years of their youth being spent in the sands of Sinai.

he was now many hundreds of kilometers from his supply bases at Tripoli, whereas the British, by falling back, had come much closer to them. He was receiving practically no reinforcements; the German summer offensive against the U.S.S.R. was now in full swing, and Hitler, rightly convinced that the war would be decided in Russia and not in North Africa, was reluctant to send him any. About half of what was earmarked for him was sunk by British submarines and planes based on Malta, whereas the British could still use the relatively safe — if impossibly long — route round the Cape of Good Hope for their reinforcements.

Above all, Rommel was now facing a new opponent in the person of General Sir Claude Auchinleck. "The Auk," 1.80 tall, blue-eyed, calm and robust Commander-in-Chief, Middle East, had felt it his duty to take over himself at the end of June, when Ritchie was losing control, and during July his forces repulsed Rommel's desperate attempts to break through in a series of small engagements. With the situation stabilized as a result of what has come to be known as the First Battle of Alamein, he started planning for an offensive to drive the Germans out of Egypt. He realized only too well the demoralized condition of his weakened army. A sound plan, thorough training and strong reinforcements were needed. Towards the achievement of these goals he worked systematically and patiently.

Patience, however, was one thing Churchill back in London did not have. Himself lacking the training of a staff officer, the British Prime Minister and Minister of Defence was contemptuous of the profession and completely unable to understand the logistic requirements of a modern army operating in a desert where everything, including even water, had to be brought up in endless convoys of two-ton trucks. Throughout the war, he had been prodding his generals to premature action, and this insistence had already led to several disasters.

Secret plans

Now he was once more urging Auchinleck to attack as soon as possible, but this time not only personal dynamism egged him on. For Churchill, unlike Auchinleck, knew that a great operation was being put in train in another part of the Mediterranean. He and President Roosevelt had finally decided on an invasion of French North Africa to be launched towards the end of 1942. In this invasion, American forces were scheduled to play the leading role; and Churchill foresaw that American preponderance in manpower and resources would steadily erode Britain's relative share in subsequent campaigns. Alamein offered a last opportunity to redeem three years of disasters to win an exclusively British victory.

Like Auchinleck, Rommel did not know that an invasion of North-West Africa was imminent. But even without knowledge of this threat to his rear, his position was precarious enough. His army was exhausted and he himself was by now a sick man. In a letter to his wife he confessed that in Auchinleck, he had finally met his match.

Worst of all, he was receiving no reinforcements and very few supplies. The battle in Russia was now approaching its climax at Stalingrad; Hitler could not and would not allow him fresh forces at this time. By advancing as far as

THE LEGEND OF EL ALAMEIN

El Alamein, Rommel had disobeyed his orders and stretched his communications beyond breaking point. Now he was trying to justify himself by claiming that, with reinforcements, he could not only capture Egypt but could push through to Iraq and by depriving Britain of her vital oil resources, possibly compel her to ask for terms.

But Hitler wasn't carried away by the victories of his most popular general and did not believe the war could be won in North Africa. In his view, Rommel's was only a small sideshow, to which he was prepared to devote only the minimum of forces necessary to hold the British at bay; everything else must go to Russia, to be used in the decisive struggle which would decide the fate of Europe for generations to come.

Romantic view

Hitler's sober views about the Mediterranean were not shared by the romantic, impulsive Churchill. To him, the old imperialist, that sea was indeed the linchpin of the Empire and of Egypt, a position whose loss would be disastrous. His military advisers repeatedly tried to convince him that Britain could not be brought to her knees even by the loss of the whole Middle East, but only by the severance of the maritime lifeline linking her to North America.

But Churchill paid no heed to them. In putting the Middle East at the top of Britain's worries, he was probably influenced largely by personal, emotional factors. But it is also possible that he put on an exaggerated show of concern in order to impress Roosevelt and squeeze out more aid from a President who was under pressure from his own advisers to divert resources and adopt a "Japan first" strategy.

By the end of July, Churchill had had enough of Auchinleck's patient but firm replies to promptings that he should take what in the latter's view would be a premature offensive. At the beginning of August, General Alexander was brought out to replace The Auk as Commander-in-Chief and command of the Eighth Army was given to Lt. General Bernard Montgomery, an eccentric, arrogant man who had impressed Churchill — always one to fall for swashbucklers — by his undeniable flair for public relations. For some mysterious reason, Churchill did not pester his new commander as he had pestered the old; he gave him the men and materials he had refused Auchinleck, and Montgomery was able to complete his predecessor's preparations — even the plan of operation was taken over lock, stock and barrel — in blissful peace. Moreover, Montgomery enjoyed an immense advantage over Auchinleck in that he knew what was being prepared for North-West Africa. He therefore timed his own offensive in such a way that it would slightly precede the invasion, even if he was to fall, the Germans would be forced to retreat because of the threat to their rear.

On October 23, Montgomery attacked. He enjoyed an overwhelming superiority in men and materials, especially artillery, aircraft and tanks. But things did not go smoothly, despite the fact that, early

in the battle, Afrika Korps was left without a commander. Rommel was in Austria, convalescing after a bad liver attack. On the day after the battle began, Hitler asked him to return to his command, and he arrived back on the night of the 25th.

To defensive

The Germans resisted the British attack ferociously and Montgomery's attempts to "pulverize" them failed completely. But they were handicapped by a crippling shortage of fuel, and Rommel was soon forced to change from offensive to defensive tactics. On November 2, Montgomery threw all his armoured reserves into the fray and, with the Royal Air Force continuing to sink their vital oil tankers, the Germans were no longer able to continue fighting. All that was left to Rommel was to extricate his forces in some kind of order. He had just got this operation off to a successful start when a "hold on at any cost" order arrived from Hitler and compelled him to halt.

When asked why he had obeyed this impossible order — it was so crazy that it drove his second-in-command, von Thoma, to surrender — Rommel answered that as a soldier who had always demanded unconditional obedience from his troops, he felt he could not disobey orders himself. However, circumstances soon dissipated his misplaced loyalty and within 48 hours he decided he would break out, permission or no permission.

Operating with all his old dexterity, he succeeded in extricating most of his Germans, though only at the expense of the Italians, who were left in the lurch. There followed a tremendous march right across Libya to Tunisia. Often brought to a standstill through lack of fuel, Rommel nevertheless succeeded in keeping out of Montgomery's clutches and evading the latter's repeated attempts to cut him off. Grandiloquently naming his laborious pursuit "chasing Rommel" (Rommel himself frequently wondered why the British were being so slow), Montgomery advanced with great caution, encountering only scattered rear-guards and tens of thousands of skillfully laid mines.

Rommel stops

At his old position at El Agheila, Rommel stopped. But when Montgomery, after delay of three weeks, finally brought himself to order his thousand tanks against Rommel's 50, he discovered the bird had flown unobserved that very night. Rommel reached the comparative safety of Tunisia — the Allies had landed in North-West Africa on November 8 and were slowly advancing eastwards — with his army intact and in good fighting spirit. Montgomery typically made up for his failure to destroy the Germans by staging a "grand victory parade" in Tripoli for Churchill's edification.

* * *

THE battle of El Alamein was fought by the British against an enemy who, however brilliant a tactician, had repeatedly shown that he failed to understand the basic

priorities of German grand strategy and had disobeyed orders to its detriment. If Rommel was nevertheless created field marshal and allowed his head, this was because he had captured the imagination of the German public and, to some extent, Hitler's as well. However, to the coldly calculating German general staff — and ultimately to Hitler too — his was nothing but a relatively unimportant sideshow, which could easily be disposed of once the Russian operation was completed. It was the British, but primarily Churchill and Montgomery with their shared flair for the dramatic, who propagandized this hard-won but strategically minor victory into a turning point of the war on a level with Stalingrad. Not only was it a battle fought with every ad-

vantage on the British side — one historian has even claimed that the main riddle is how Montgomery almost succeeded in losing it — but it was one whose outcome was determined in advance by external factors. In this sense, it was a quite unnecessary shedding of blood dictated by emotional and political reasons. Measured by this yardstick, neither Churchill nor Montgomery had reason to be proud of the victory.

But this does not matter. For Churchill's power always lay not in his strategy, but in his eloquence; and as long as men live and people read, his books will be in demand. And from them will rise the voice of a man who, whatever his shortcomings as a military strategist, did more than any other to save the world from the darkest tyranny.



Perillys are made from the original recipe and the same pure filigrain paper as used by Mr. Perilly when he hand made his cigarettes for the carriage trade.



PURE FILIGRAIN PAPER



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Helena Rubinstein. Beauty that works.

Free cosmetic advice is given every Mon & Wed. between 3.30-6 p.m. at the Helena Rubinstein Beauty Education Centre, 64 Keren Kayemeth Blvd., Tel Aviv. Free beauty advice for teenagers only, every Tuesday between 3.30-6 p.m.

Marketing with Martha

NOBODY is afraid to go into a supermarket, and this may be the culmination of the 18 artists who opened an exhibit of painting and sculpture on Monday evening in the Shefa-Chan Supermarket at Dizengoff Circle. The exhibition, dispersed among the groceries, will remain for a fortnight.

Above the frozen corn and Brussels sprouts hangs a pop art painting of a Volkswagen, by an established local artist, Ron Shuhori. A photo collage of a flower-child face hangs over the Garber baby food counter. The work is by a newcomer to Israel from California, Norman Kulkin, who has never exhibited before.

The exhibit is sponsored by The Third Eye, Ha-Agla Ha-Safeski, a new pop shop for art, records and books at 75 Dizengoff Rd., just below the Circle. The idea of the supermarket exhibit, according to one of the artists who was helping hang pictures last Monday, is "to erase the barrier between the gallery and society."

The prices, however, will maintain a barrier between the art and most supermarket shoppers. The exhibition includes a number of big-name Israeli artists, among them Yigal Tumarkin, Rafi Lavie, Dida Oz and Henry Schlesskyak, and prices for many of the works therefore run into the hundreds and thousands. The Tumarkins — three pieces of scrap-metal sculpture at the front of the store — do not even have listed prices, but require consultation with the artist. At the other end of the price scale are lithographs at IL200, by Gad Ullman and others.

Even if you want to buy, you can't put a work of art in your shopping cart and wheel it to the check-out counter. There are numbers on each work, and a representative of The Third Eye is on duty at all times with a corresponding list of prices. If you make a purchase, you can collect your picture at the end of the exhibition.

Novelties

Among the novelties of the show are paintings by writer Amos Kolnan — mildly erotic beachfront scenes, hanging over the milk, butter and cheeses. There is a work by Michel Opatowski which I would have hung near the bottled beverages: it is a Coca-Cola emblem in Arabic packed onto a large white canvas and priced at IL700. One way-out raffle sculpture by Mira Shehori looks so at home in the supermarket that I had to ask whether it was part of the exhibition or not.

There are also works by Jacques Katman, who is better known as a film director. He is one of the owners of The Third Eye, together with his wife Anna, photographer Amnon Solomon, actress Yael Aviv and best known as Hedva in the TV series "Hedva and I" — and her husband Zachi Shaul.

Third eye

The Third Eye shop — its management prefers to call it an "anthology" — is worth a visit on its own. It could be called Israel's first "underground" shop — located appropriately in a basement of a new apartment building and dedicated to all sorts of counter-culture art. Rock music blares (but not unpleasantly loudly), from a stereo, and young people lounge around the floor "doing their things" — listening, chatting, sketching, reading. The shop sells off-beat American "pencil" books, underground newspapers, histories of the motion picture, biographies of Angela Davis and Bob Dylan, and other

Discovery

Like any gallery owners, Tilly and Hela are especially proud when they feel they have "discovered" a new artist. They first saw Shraga Aloni's work at an exhibition, then took a year and a half to track him down.

They found the former kibbutznik still in his early 30s, living and painting in Tel Aviv. "When we first found him, we sold his pictures for IL900. Now they fetch IL700 and more."

banks, mostly in English. "The best rock music" on records is for sale. Some, but not much, original pop art is also on the wall for sale. "The Last Whole Earth Catalog" is available for IL30.

"The Third Eye is open for regular business from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., but after-hours there are sometimes showings of "underground" movies or artistic performances.

GALLERY 5

GALLERY 5 is in a private home, the Goldmans, at 5 Rehov Carmel, Ramat Chan, the suburb near the Maccabiah Village. It is not the easiest place to get to without a car. But you can get quite near with Dan Bus No. 30 from Allenby Road, No. 34 from the Central Bus Station, or No. 58 from North Tel Aviv.

Coffee and sympathy are doubled in the living room which doubles as the gallery. No one snickers if you ask for a painting "which will go with green wallpaper." Hela Goldman and Tilly Milner are used to such requests. Not only don't they laugh, but they will even go to a prospective customer's house to survey the decor.

Because it occupies home space, the gallery is open only twice a week: Monday and Tuesday mornings, 10 to 12, and geared to women, who are invited by word of mouth and circulars distributed in nearby neighbourhoods. Both these days, the gallery reopens in the afternoon, from 4 to 8 p.m. for an evening session intended for couples.

Open a year

Hela and Tilly, who opened their gallery a year ago, run it as a sort of introductory course in contemporary Israeli art. Hela studied art in New York City, where she used to live. Tilly, who comes from South Africa, is an enthusiastic collector, though not a painter herself. The morning I visited them, three other young women were present.

The painting we were admiring was an abstract Guatemalan collection of houses under a stark yellow sun. The two immigrants from South Africa present said it reminded them of that country's landscape, though the artist is Israeli. This particular work is priced at IL650.

We spent some time looking through a folder of Dan Kryger, a Tel Aviv artist, who combines stiching with a silk-screening process. "We're very excited about him," Tilly said. Among other assets, he has a sense of humour.

One thousand pounds is the maximum price of a work at Gallery 5. Prices start at IL50 and the average is IL400 — IL600. Hela and Tilly admit that it is not easy finding good works, especially oils, in this price range. But they manage, often by choosing the smaller-sized paintings of known artists, or their lithographs. Marcel Janco, Moshe Gat, Yohanan Simon, and Chaim Rosenthal are among the veteran artists whose works are there. (Prices are marked on each item, and they're fixed prices, I was told.)

Art among the Groceries

An artist who has charmed Hela and Tilly, both with his works and his gentle personality, is a religious Yemenite, Avraham Alzmon. He specializes in watercolours of flowers and trees, in dark tones.

Occasionally Tilly and Hela take their collection outside the Goldman home. Last year, they agreed somewhat apprehensively to organize an exhibition in Bnei Brak on behalf of a religious women's organization. Most of the visitors had never before been exposed to contemporary art, and took to it so well that they have asked for it to be repeated this year.

SWEET wine, fruit juices and spiced teas set the tone at Galerie du Soleil (in Hebrew, Galeriya ha-Shevesh), newly opened by Aviva Orchalom and Lior Yehli. She is a former art supervisor for the Ministry of Education; he is a singer and actor. The gallery is situated in a basement at 14 Rehov Massada, one of the small streets behind Dizengoff Road in the Keren Kayemet-Arlozorov vicinity. The walls are lined with paintings, the centre of the room has rows of folding chairs for planned artistic performances and discussion programmes. Registration for these is currently in progress, but it is not possible to know just what courses will be available until the owners see what the public wants. What will be offered is a wide range of subjects all tending toward the aim of "harmony in life," says Aviva and Lior. Aviva is prepared to teach beginning drawing and painting to adults who have never tried to paint before. She is willing to give talks on "meditation." She offers consultation and guidance in "chromotherapy" — which is another name for colour therapy, and which she learned about while studying art in Paris. An initial fifteen-minute consultation on colour therapy by Aviva is free-of-charge, but additional "guidance" — such as a home visit or an interview with a moody child — requires payment. Similarly, there will be fees of IL5 to IL10 per lesson for the various courses offered, and entrance charges for the singing and recitation programmes with Lior Yehli, mainly on themes of "love and peace." He hopes to interest other performing artists, poets, and avant-garde theatre groups to appear. For the moment, it is a little hard to know what is going on any particular evening at Galerie du Soleil. It is open from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., daily except Fridays. Performances, when they occur, will begin at 8:30 p.m. "We are not night-owls," says Aviva. They are also vegetarians, but do not plan to lecture on that subject. They do hope, however, to organize a how-to-give-up-smoking circle under the auspices of the local Cancer Society. Lior

stopped smoking four years ago. The art hanging on the gallery walls and intended for sale is also intended to blend in with the general theme of "harmony," insist Aviva and Lior. For instance, she has a few hand-prints by a Swiss "chromo-therapeutic artist," Marchesan. "Note the clean, healthy colours," Aviva said to me. These prints sell for IL100. Also at that price are Aviva's own hand-coloured stehings, and her many collages of autumn leaves start at IL100.

As her special discovery, she claims a young artist named Meshi, who paints in the style of naive fantasy, with religious themes. His works, she said, sell for "IL200 and up," but it was rather hard to pin her down on a price for his most impressive work there, because Aviva says she has plans to "save it for an international exhibition." Price are not marked on works.

It is necessary to view Galerie du Soleil as a "happening" rather than a regular art gallery. Aviva herself, a dark-haired beauty in Oriental-mode gowns which she designs, lends much to the atmosphere. Lior looks and talks like the would-be representative of the "new" generation which wants to save the world with songs and words of love. It will not appeal to everyone, but everyone is welcome to come and see, and sip a glass of Sapir Sweet Wine from the Zion Wineries, Jerusalem.

Martha Meisels

Sex expert dispenser of facts

By Mary Selman

A FORMER television expert, who worked at Israel's TV station as a technical supervisor three years ago, has returned to the country — but this time as a sex expert.

Howard Kirsh, 28, was back in Israel last week as a working tourist, visiting old friends, touring the country and meeting with leading sociologists and educators to dispense information about New York City's Community Sex Information Service, where he works as a volunteer counselor.

Mr. Kirsh, who is now a broadcast engineer with Doyle Dane Bernbach advertising agency, was one of the first 20 counselors trained to take part in a telephone information service, considered the best way to reach people with problems or questions about sex. Now there are 70 counselors, an office open for 11 hours a day and receiving 150 calls a day, an abortion referral service, a speakers' bureau and symposiums. The service is sponsored by grants from the New York Foundation and John Rockefeller.



HOWARD KIRSH

"I thought it was a worthwhile cause," Mr. Kirsh said in an interview with The Post. "I had some free time for community service, and, frankly, I wanted to know some more about sex." With a three-month course and a year of counseling behind him, he now speaks knowledgeably about the urgent need for sex education both in the U.S. and Israel. He is especially opposed to the family doctor acting as sex counselor for patients with problems: "The average doctor has more hang-ups than his patients about sex and his body, and furthermore he has never received any training in human sexuality."

Practice

For instance, if a caller asks if oral sex "is all right," a counselor may tell him it is practised by a large segment of the population. If a woman asks if birth control pills are "good for her," a counselor might answer that the pill is the most effective birth control method known, used by millions of women, but that there are some health hazards, especially for women suffering from blood clotting, or varicose veins. He would add that there have been no long-range studies made on effects of the pill, and advise the woman to see a doctor.

Of the homosexuals who call in for information, some are satisfied with their sexual preference, and simply want to know where to meet other homosexuals; these would be referred to "gay groups" or consciousness-raising clubs. Others want to know if they are "normal," and exhibit dissatisfaction with their way of life. They would be sent to either gay counselors or to a psychiatrist.

Local interest

New York's sex information service came to the attention of Israelis when one of the counselors, Edna Shimlan, delivered a paper at the sex symposium held in Tel Aviv in July. Following some queries from Israelis, Mr. Kirsh was given booklets and posters to take back here during his trip. He met with Isa Stern of the Demographic Committee of the Prime Minister's office for 2½ hours to explain training techniques for counselors. Her prime interest, however, was not in a telephone service for Israel, but in training people to help introduce sex education in schools. Mr. Kirsh also met with Dr. Ilana Koshen of the Hebrew University, who is interested in setting up symposiums on human sexuality. Both expressed great urgency about improving sex education in Israel.

The time is not right, they felt, for setting up a telephone counseling service in Israel, but they might be able to use other ideas suggested by Mr. Kirsh. They have asked him to send over some booklets for translation into Hebrew, and have also taken some of his posters dealing with venereal diseases and masturbation.

He is very much in favour of setting up sex information services in Israel, or for that matter, anywhere in the world, and explains it by quoting his group's motto: "sexual ignorance isn't bliss."

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1972

Mary Mikardo—P.R. for Pioneer Women in Britain

By Lea Levavi
Jerusalem Post Reporter



Mary Mikardo (left) with Beba Idelson, Mostest Hapodot's General Secretary at Netanya Seminar.

FOR Mary Mikardo — public relations officer of Pioneer Women in Great Britain and wife of Ian Mikardo, Labour M.P. — "paradise" would be to spend six months a year in England and the remaining six months here. "That way," she explained when we met last week in Netanya, "we wouldn't have to be cut off from our roots and from our family in England, but could still feel we're living here."

Mr. and Mrs. Mikardo are here on their annual visit to their daughter and her family in Haifa. "We came over with the annual Pioneer Women study group. While the other women are touring the country, I stay with my daughter — who is, by the way, public relations director of Haifa University.

For special events, such as the seminar Mostest Hapodot is holding for British Pioneer Women here, I join the group. I also will be having meetings with leaders of Mostest Hapodot, to discuss new ways in which we can help them...

Mrs. Mikardo first became interested in Pioneer Women through her brother, Moshe Rossetti, who served as Knesset Clerk from 1948 until his retirement three years ago. "When I was National Chairman of our organization twenty years ago, we opened a children's home in Ramat Gan. One of the things I did during this trip was to attend the 20th anniversary celebration."

For the past fifteen years, Mrs. Mikardo has been public relations officer of British Pioneer Women. "The most important part of my work is to establish contacts with labour and socialistic organizations in England, particularly non-Jewish organizations, to tell them about Israel and to gain their political and moral support."

One of her chief activities is counteracting Arab propaganda. "It was much easier ten or fifteen years ago; but today the Arabs have left on instructions from their own leaders."

England, including well-subsidized students who propagandize full-time. You have to really have the facts at your fingertips to answer their seemingly persuasive arguments.

"For instance, they always talk about the refugees and how the Israelis chased the Arabs out of the country. I have to remind them that Israel's independence was decided upon by the U.N., with Russia's backing, and that the Arabs left on instructions from their own leaders."

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1972

Leilah's Deir el Balah beauty salon— a success story

By Gideon Weigert

SHE is just into her twenties, a native of the Nusseirat refugee camp in the southern part of the Gaza Strip. In 1959 she was among the top graduates of the Deir el Balah girls' secondary school. Today she owns the first and only beauty parlour anywhere south of Gaza town. She is the daughter of a local teacher, Abdul Rahim Dukhan, and her name is Leilah.

"So I had a matriculation certificate with distinction. What then?" said Leilah when I talked to her in El Anwar ("The Lights") Beauty Parlour at Deir el Balah. At first she thought of following in her father's footsteps and becoming a teacher. She was too late to register at the UNWRA women teachers' seminary. Yet she refused to stay at home; she wanted to earn her own living and learn a trade. So it was decided to enrol her in the Ramallah UNWRA vocational training centre for refugee girls. There was a vacancy in the hairdressing department, and Leilah accepted it. At the end of a two-year course she graduated top of her class, the first

refugee girl from the southern part of the Gaza Strip ever to become a hairdresser.

And again the same problem came up: What then? Leilah refused to follow the beaten track for the graduates of such courses, and content herself with employment in one of the ten existing beauty parlours in Gaza town. She wanted an independent career, near her family home in Nusseirat. She realized that the entire area south of Gaza down to El Arish was virgin soil as far as ladies' hairdressing was concerned.

She came to a firm decision: she would set herself up in the centre of this region at Deir el Balah, the educational and administrative centre of the area.

With the help of a family friend, suitable premises were found in the centre of the town, near the post office. The place was equipped with a water heater, hair drying machines and all the other necessary appliances; a local painter produced an illuminated signboard, and in the autumn of 1971, El Anwar Beauty Parlour, "under the direction of the Miss Leilah Dukhan," opened its doors.



The sign reads "El Anwar Beauty Parlour" and the photo shows Leilah at work at hair styling.

"The first days in my brand new shop were the most difficult in my whole life," Leilah admits today. Her greatest ally was patience. She had cards printed, and sent them to "leading women" of the township. Her sister put them up in prominent places around the Nusseirat camp. But no customers presented themselves. Week after week Leilah arrived every morning from Nusseirat, opened her shop, dusted the equipment, heated the water, and sat down to wait.

"You must realize that the women in the southern part of the Strip, and particularly those in the large refugee camps, are not used to going to the hairdresser. We still live here in a very conservative, strictly Moslem environment, and many people, out of pure ignorance, regard my profession as one not suitable for a good Moslem girl."

The women in the camp were not slow to start gossip about what a shame it was for the daughter of a noble teacher to become a hairdresser, to go by bus, unaccompanied by a man from her family to the city, to remain there alone, the whole day, and return in the evening, again unaccompanied, to the camp.

One of the things that helped Leilah during those trying months was her parents' full support of her conduct. And finally her patience was her parents' full support of wife of a Deir el Balah official made her appearance at El Anwar Beauty Parlour, accompanied by her husband. She asked for a shampoo and set. Leilah put all her skill into serving her first customer who left the shop with a promise to send her women friends. Slowly, things began to look up. Mothers, first from the town only, started to bring their grown-up daughters on the eve of a feast or a family celebration. Brides and their relatives came on the eve of a wedding day. Others fixed appointments, until slowly even women from Nusseirat and other camps dared to drop in to see "what this daughter of Um Abdul Rahman (Leilah's mother) is actually doing." Their husbands were by now earning enough money to permit their womenfolk the luxury of a "beauty session."

What kind of services does Leilah provide? First there is haircutting, shampooing and, if required, styling. Then she was trained in make-up and the care of wigs. She is skilled in facial massage and manicure as well, but these are not yet in demand by the women in the southern part of the Strip.

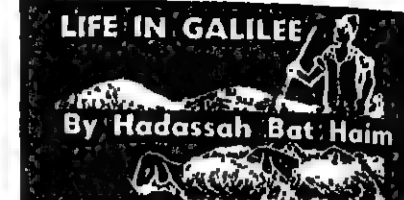
How does Leilah feel today, at the beginning of her second year in business?

"True, my circle of customers is not yet very wide, but I have confidence in the future. I trust there will be enough work for me to earn my living and support myself without further aid from my parents."

Leilah knows well that the first year of her new work was a trial year, especially in a profession which until 1972 was completely unknown in her area, and was regarded — in addition to the traditional inhibitions — as the height of luxury for inhabitants of refugee camps, most of whom had been without work during the 19 years of Egyptian military rule. But she is encouraged by the fact that this year there are two new girls from refugee camps in the area attending the Ramallah hairdressing course.

Pioneer

"You see, I acted more or less as a pioneer opening the roads for others. I proved that even for a refugee girl, nothing can stand in the way of an iron will."



By Hadassah Bat-Haim

THE soothing patter of rain pattering on the window in the middle of the night brings nothing but a sense of ease and a feeling that the summer has gone on long enough. I give a momentary thought to the laundry on the line but decide that even the most delicate fabric won't come to any harm in this gentle refreshment.

With this comforting thought I drift off to sleep again, lulled by the faint sound of swishing on the leaves. After a few minutes, my daughter, who can — and does — sleep through the most violent of storms, calls out from her room to tell me it is raining. Sleepily I reply that I know and that it doesn't matter. She reminds me that the blouse she needs for school tomorrow is outside. In that case, I reply, she should go and get it in.

The elderly relative on a brief visit, woken by this exchange, cries out in alarm to know what is happening. I about back that it is nothing, only a shower, but she obviously does not find it credible that Hannah and I should find this a matter for comment and in another moment she is at the door of my room, a formidable figure in a heavy quilted dressing gown, fur-lined slippers, curl papers and a woollen night-cap. If anything is amiss, she demands to be told at once. Has anyone been taken ill? Should she put the kettle on while I phone for a doctor? Or is it burglars? The dog, roused by the conversation, barks madly to get out of the kitchen and this disturbs our Parlour Boarder who wants to know has Sambo caught a mouse.

Aunt panics

My aunt, now in a state of panic, says we never told her we had mice. She won't sleep another wink now or even go back to bed and first thing in the morning I must notify the authorities and we will all go to a hotel while the house is thoroughly de-moused. Wearily I assure her that there are no mice, give Sambo an entirely illegal biscuit and assure the F.B. that its nothing but a drop of rain. He and the dog go back to sleep, but my aunt, though now ready to accept my word, belatedly thinks of the washing which includes her second-best chiffon scarf.

No efforts of mine can convince her that now that the rain has stopped it will dry quicker outside than inside. I mustn't bother, she says bravely, she will put on her outdoor boots and a woollen shawl and bring it in. Thus pressured, I slip outside barefoot, pursued by her lamentations that I'll catch my death, bring it all in and dump it on a chair.

In the morning there is a short tussle with Hannah who insists on wearing her blouse in spite of assertion from my aunt who holds it to her ear and then sniffs at it, that it is still damp. Hannah must take it off at once, so my aunt can iron it and then air it for a few hours; then it will be safe.

I make the mistake of telling her that it's not important, the sun will dry it in minutes and as she has worn a wet bathing suit for most of the summer I am sure she will come to no harm. My aunt feels this is a very irresponsible attitude and cites a number of instances where prolonged contact with wet garments has undermined the health of many of her friends.

Hardly able to credit the brilliant sunshine that floods the breakfast table and the fact that I have not got pneumonia, she is now deeply suspicious of the weather and cannot be persuaded to leave the house without equipment for a winter's day in England, despite temperatures up in the seventies. As we prepare to go shopping she insists me to get a mousetrap in case the mouse comes back as she doesn't want another disturbed night.

French ready-to-wear borrows Saint Laurent tennis look

By Aline Mosby

U.F.I. Fashion Reporter

PARIS. — THE "tennis look" for spring is one offering of Paris at the spring-summer pre-a-porter fashion shows exhibiting this past week. The French Ready-to-Wear Federation said an estimated 50,000 buyers from around the world, plus press, are in town to look at the wares of France's booming ready-made industry, along with fashions from other countries including Israel.

A two-floor exposition of 800 manufacturers at the Salon de Versailles Exhibition Hall leads off the spring style parade.

One theme evident to the buyers and press tramping through the crowded stalls at the Salon de Versailles is the "tennis-anyone" sweater look that ready-to-wear stylists copied outright from high-fashion king Yves Saint Laurent.

The couture House of Lanvin, in its inexpensive ready-to-wear line, has a sure-fire hit in long, V-neck cardigan tennis sweaters over silk shirtwaist dresses, printed in bright colors.

Several manufacturers presented knit trouser suits, with those long V-neck tennis sweaters buttoned down the front. Another popular style was the tennis dress, often in ivory flannel, with the V-neckline banded in colours. Matching jackets had, of course, embroidered tennis rackets on the pockets.

The second big Yves Saint Laurent influence was the blouse jacket that he and the ready-to-wear house, JAF, started in a carryover from the winter styles, the main spring trouser suit dominating the Salon de Versailles shows had a short, blousy jacket with ribbing at the waist, full sleeves and wide, raglan armholes.

The third Saint Laurent influence is his 1940-ish look that still reigns. Shoes on display had platform soles, high, chunky heels, and ankle straps. Dresses flared with bias cuts and puffy sleeves. Mannish jackets teamed with narrow, straight skirts reminiscent of the World War II look.

Wide pants

Trouser suits still dominate the female wardrobe, and, for spring, the pants are definitely wide, but fit snugly over the waist, hip and upper leg. The pants look even wider and longer with those short blouson jackets. And tailored jackets are cut shorter, not covering the entire derriere.

Suits often had pleated skirts. Three-quarter coats were plentiful, with kimono sleeves and bathrobe tie belts. And the dress continued to make its comeback — shirtwaists, tennis dresses, and the tailored "nurse dress" with patch pockets and short sleeves.

Hemlines for city day wear hovered around the knee. The youthful ivory flannel, with the V-neckline banded in colours, Matching jackets had, of course, embroidered tennis rackets on the pockets.

Beged-Or at Paris showings



Beged-Or, now showing their spring and summer 1973 collection at the Paris ready-to-wear fair, puts "leather in motion." Whether it is for men or women, it is a jacket — as seen in the three models above. Beged-Or also sees the comeback of the roll collar in ribbed knit with cuffs to match. But the action is with jackets that blouse and billow in the right places. There are also ¾ toppers that are vented or wrap around with off-hand chlo, ¾ coats that swing from inverted pleats and fullness. Also at the Pre-a-porter is the Beged-Or Bis collection, for men and women — completely in fabric. As with leather, in this fabric collection Beged-Or devotes itself to dressmaker detailing in handstitched darts and arrows giving importance to pockets, belts and yokes. There are also gigantic collars to turn up, and deep barrel cuffs to turn down.

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By Bill Troutt

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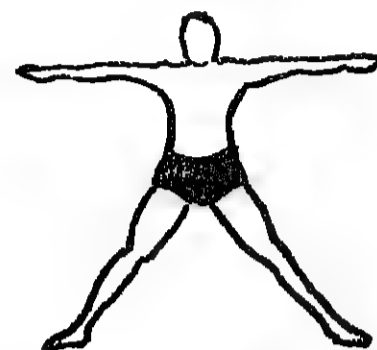
and raise the arms over the head, placing the palms together.

4. Hold the pose for a few seconds. Keep the left leg straight and stretch the spine towards the ceiling. The right heel is at the groin and the knee at a right angle to the body.

5. Lower the arms to the sides, bring the right leg back

the right palm near the right ankle. If possible, place the palm completely on the floor.

6. Stretch the left arm up (as in the illustration) bringing it in line with the right shoulder and extend the trunk. The back of the legs, the back of the chest and the hips should be in line. Look up at the thumb of the outstretched hand. Be certain to keep the right knee locked tight and facing the toes.



LESSON 2

BALANCE POSE (Technique)
1. Stand in the Perfect Posture. Feet together, legs straight with the arms along the side.



2. Bend the right leg and place the foot on the left thigh, toes pointing downwards. You might start off by standing alongside a wall and using it to catch your balance when necessary.

3. Balance on the left leg

to the floor and stand in the Perfect Posture.

6. Repeat the pose, alternating the legs. Stay for the same length of time and come back to the Perfect Posture.

Rifts
This pose tones the leg muscles and gives a gentle stretch to the spine. One feels a sense of balance and poise from accomplishing this posture.

LESSON 3

TRIANGLE POSE (Technique)

1. Stand in the Perfect Posture.

2. Inhale deeply and jump the legs apart 3 to 3½ feet (1½ metre). Raise the arms sideways, in line with the shoulders, palms facing down. Keep the arms parallel to the floor.

3. Turn the right foot 90 degrees and the left foot slightly to the right, keeping the leg stretched and tightened at the knee.

4. Exhale, bend the trunk sideways to the right, bringing

7. Now turn the left foot sideways 90 degrees, right foot also slightly turned to the left. Keep both knees tight and continue from position 2 to 4, reversing all processes. Hold the posture for the same length of time on the left side.

8. Exhale and jump back into the Perfect Posture Pose.

Effects
This asana tones up the leg muscles, removes stiffness in the legs and hips, corrects any minor deformity in the legs and allows them to develop evenly. It relieves backaches and neck sprains, strengthens the ankles and develops the chest.



Yoel, a Ramat Gan 12-year-old at work at the Helena Rubinstein during a sculpting and painting course organized by the Tel Aviv Museum. There are 850 youngsters, between the ages of 12-18, taking the course. (Issacharoff photo)

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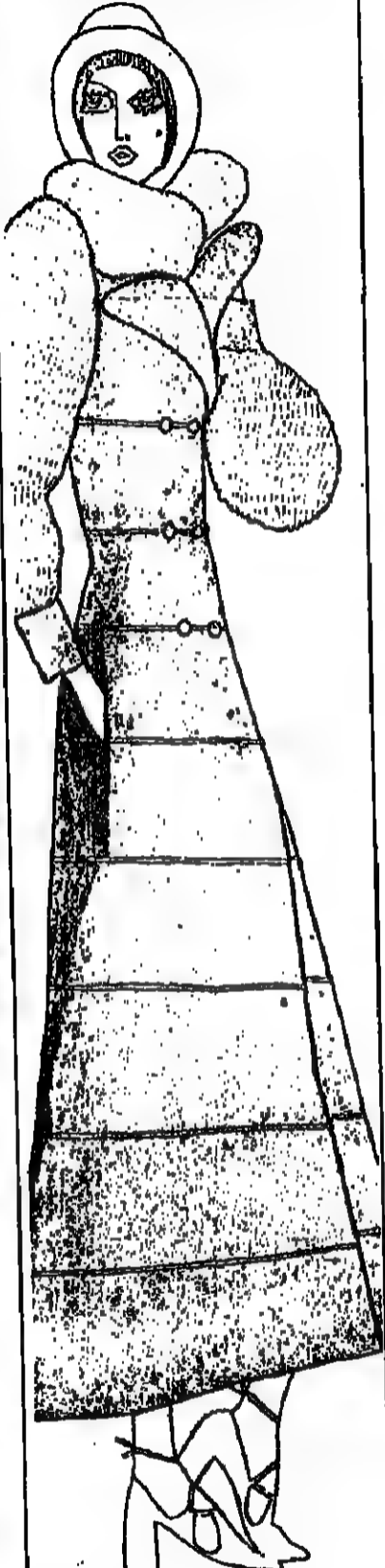
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Reviving the Dybbuk



Hanna Rovina as Leah in the original production of "The Dybbuk."

The recent announcement that Habimah will soon revive "The Dybbuk" for the State's 25th anniversary reminded me of a man I once knew, a perfectly ordinary person whose single claim to distinction was the fact that as a young man in Moscow he saw the original production of "The Dybbuk." He would tell the story to every person he met, and though he was no great raconteur, he usually found an audience. Because "The Dybbuk," first performed by Habimah exactly 50 years ago (the opening night was January 22, 1922), is a legend, probably the most famous theatrical production in the history of the modern theatre. Habimah toured with it for several years, throughout Europe and in the United States, causing sensations everywhere. It was badly imitated by other theatres and by Habimah itself in successive revivals, the last one having taken place about ten years ago, a disaster which I distinctly remember, though I cannot recall the name of the actress who played the leading role.

"The Dybbuk" is also one of the most written-about theatrical productions of modern times. It is extensively treated in books on the theatre of the 20th century, in all theatrical reference books; countless treatises have been written on the subject and still are being written. I often receive letters from Ph.D. candidates out there in the wide world asking me — since I live in Tel Aviv, within a stone's throw from Habimah's glass building — for help in obtaining information concerning some detail about "The Dybbuk."

In our times, significant theatrical productions are extensively photographed, tape-recorded, filmed and chronicled in every detail, for the benefit of the future historian. Little of that was done when "The Dybbuk" was first produced. All we have is some photographs, and a considerable body of critical articles written all over the world, and memoirs of actors and others who had a hand in the show.

The theatre is the most transient of the arts; a show lives as long as it is on the boards. A revival, even soon after, even closely imitating the original, is another show, for better or worse. A film of the show is of historical importance, but will not give the audience the thrill of the live performance; not only because the audience will see shadows instead of living performers, but primarily because a great performance of 50 years back may leave us cold or have even a worse effect on us. I re-

member laughing, together with everyone else present in a small movie house in Paris, when they were showing a filmed scene — the greatest of them all — Sarah Bernhardt playing her most famous role in Kotikoff's "L'Alphonse," a film made about ten years before "The Dybbuk"; it was the smiting of the world's most famous actress which sent us into spasms of laughter. Had the original version of "The Dybbuk" been preserved on celluloid, who knows how entertaining, in the wrong way, it would be to us now.

We know what the Impressions of contemporaries were. One of the intellectual lights of the period, the Russian writer Akin Valinsky, thus described one scene: A Jewess enters the synagogue weeping in a tune which makes one think of David's harp. This is a ritual weeping; it has a specific melody, and yet it is most sincere and genuine. The woman approaches the Holy Ark with firm steps, pulls aside the curtain, and in a voice full of sweetness and pleading pours out her troubles. The entire synagogue is filled with her voice.

The scene made a profound impression on that articulate viewer, as it did on thousands of others all over the world. But one can wonder what a 1972 audience in Tel Aviv would think of the weeping, had it been preserved on a sound track. Would not the very qualities which made the show so impressive in the 'twenties make it look quaint, or worse now?

The man who made "The Dybbuk" great was not the author, Sh. An-sky, but the director Evgen Vakhtangov, a pupil of the great Stanislavsky, one of the few authentic geniuses of the theatre. Vakhtangov was a very sick man when he started rehearsing the show, and the rehearsal, interrupted by Vakhtangov's long stretches in the hospital, continued off and on for three years. The director was too ill to attend the opening night, and died of cancer soon after (his other great work, a production of "Turandot," which also made theatre history, opened with the director already dead, at 39).

Vakhtangov, an Armenian whose contact with Jews and Judaism had been non-existent before Stanislavsky persuaded him to take on "The Dybbuk," presented on the stage the quintessence of Jewish living as it evolved over centuries in Eastern Europe. "The Dybbuk" is by no means a great play, but is very good theatre. Above all, it is rich in what we somewhat condescendingly call folklore. An-sky was by profession a student of folklore, and the play was a spin-off of his research, full of details of the way of life and the beliefs of the people. Vakhtangov used his text as a springboard for his brilliant directorial ideas, such as the famous beggars' dance which in his interpretation became both a demonic eruption and an act of social protest: in it the beggars, invited to a free meal on the occasion of the wedding of the rich man's daughter, express their hatred of the rich.

One of the members of the cast described in his memoirs how the great man instructed an actress playing one of the beggar women: "You are a hungry beggar woman. Watch your hands grab the bread hungrily with your crooked, rheumatic hands, grab everything in sight. You have long forgotten how it feels to hold something good. You take things with an ugly, depraved grasp."

There is also the story concerning the famous gesture which became the leitmotif of the show — palms at the sides of the head, fingers spread out — a gesture which had since become standard in Hassidic plays and dances. During one of his hospital stays, Vakhtangov shared a room with an elderly Jew who gave him lessons in Hebrew. One morning the old man taught him a word even a worse effect on us. I re-

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Musical Mecca on the Thames



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It seems that London has replaced all other European capitals as the centre of the musical world, London upon Thames is undoubtedly the Mecca of our young Israeli conductors and instrumentalists (I have to use the name of that holy city as, for some of them, the earthly Jerusalem was in fact their domicile before they started on their careers abroad). Geographically, England is close to all the European music centres, the nearest staging post to the United States and South America, and within easy reach of the Middle East. The most important impresarios live in London, and there are excellent telephone links — direct dialling, of course — and no travel tax. It all makes things so much easier to arrange.

Some of the Israelis have acquired nice little flats and put them ungrudgingly at the disposal of their colleagues in search of the flesh-pots.

There seems to be so much work for everyone that the proverbial professional jealousy and fear of competition have not yet marred the extremely friendly relations that exist among the Israeli musicians in London.

Spending a fortnight in this great city — not as a music critic — I felt I was having a buxaman's holiday — there were Israelis all over town! On the first night of my stay, I went

to the Queen Elizabeth Hall to hear the duo-pianists Bracha Eden and Alexander Tamir from Jerusalem. I had heard their programme several times before, but somehow it sounded — or felt — different with a different audience around me. On second thoughts, not so different after all, for there were so many Israelis among them that a friend of mine remarked: "Isn't it just like the good old days at the YMCA?" And when the artists, as one of their encores, added a Jewish song from Dosevich's cycle, "The Golden Chain," as a demonstration of solidarity with the Russian Jews trying to get to Israel, the designation "Israeli artists abroad" achieved a new significance.

The next day, on the B.B.C. I heard Jerusalem cellist Raphael Sommer in a Brahms Sonata. Rafi, after ten years in Paris and five in London, has, for the last five years, been head of the cello department at Manchester's Royal College of Music. He often gives concerts in Europe, and is now on his first tour in the U.S. and Canada. Still feeling a real Israeli, he would love to play here regularly, but the powers that be in Israel seem to expect our artists to run after them and beg for an invitation.

On my third day, I made my pilgrimage to Buckingham Palace to see the changing of the guard and hear the bands play. I heard the first but enjoyed the second part of the "programme." It was rather funny to hear the Guards Band linking colourful tradition with up-to-date popular taste by playing "Jesus Christ Superstar."

Waiting for the hands to match up, I met Yoav Talmi, the conductor, and his flautist wife Evelina, who had just arrived in London to establish a professional base for future operations in Europe. He was offered a temporary home by Moshe Atzmon, whose activities in Basle and Hamburg are keeping him away from England for the time being.

Other Israelis with addresses in London include Yuval Zalluk, Uri Segal and Elyakum Shapiro (the latter now mostly busy in Sweden). Conductor Adrian Sunshine called on me to talk nostalgically about his several stints in Israel.

Looking through "The Times" at random, one day I found advertisements listing, inter alia, Elyahu Inbal conducting the New Philharmonic, with Mirjam Fried as soloist, at the Royal Festival Hall; Victor Yoran, the cellist, playing at the Queen Elizabeth Hall; pianist Ilan Rogoff appearing at the Royal Albert Hall as soloist with the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, followed three days later by a recital by Jacqueline Du Pre and Daniel Barenboim.

Among "former Israelis" in London, Erich Greenberg is now leader of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, while his brother, Eli Goren, leader of the B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra — for a long time first violin in the Allegri String Quartet — is leader of the B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra.

A VERY Israeli occasion was the concert given at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in aid of the "Ajayn" Hospital, for Disabled Children in Jerusalem, with Pinhas Zuckerman and Daniel Barenboim playing four Beethoven Sonatas.

The hall, which has close to 1,500 seats, was almost sold out, and the concert — established as an annual event last year with Yitzhak Perlman and Andre Evyvin as the artists — brought in a very nice sum towards the upkeep and expansion of the hospital. Despite the rather subdued mood of the audience — it was the day after the letter bomb outrage at the Embassy, resulting in the death of Ami Shehori — or maybe because of it, there was a feeling of contact between the artists and their listeners quite unusual at a benefit concert, to which not everyone comes for the music. The very demanding programme met with a very good response, both from connoisseurs and from newcomers getting their first experience of serious music.

When I paid my respects to Sir Robert Mayer, the grand old man of English children's concerts, Israel came up again, for he has been closely connected for many years with the Jeuneses Musicales, which is holding its next international meeting in Jerusalem in July.

Sir Robert, a Jewish businessman, introduced children's concerts into England in 1922, financing his scheme, together with his wife, the singer Dorothy Moulton, as an experiment in musical education. The experiment soon turned into a movement, and there can be no doubt that it had much to do with the greatly increased interest in "serious" music among the young in England after World War II.

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KEEPING THE GAULS AT BAY

YITZHAK (Zachi) Shimoni telephoned me, after the piece I wrote last week, to challenge me to a duel on Zion Square, his microphone against my pen. He says that I am circulating stories calculated to spread alarm and despondency among the viewers. I had taken a news story in a prominent Hebrew daily and put it together with last week's Italian film and next week's French one to deduce that European countries on the Channel were taking over Television House.

Zachi admonished me not to believe everything I read in the Hebrew papers. *The Jerusalem Post* of course, is different. He says I put two and two together and made 22,000. All he had got in Italy were three or four operas, and in France, a few films. He did try to argue with me that French films would be enjoyed by thousands of Israelis who speak that language.

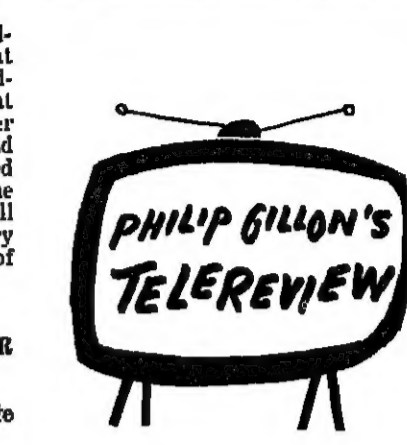
This may be so, but, in the light of French policies and the decline of French culture, French-speaking Israelis must suffer, and I for one am cheerfully prepared to sacrifice them. We must keep the Gauls at bay at all costs. Zachi assured me that our thrillers

will be replaced by other thrillers, no less bloody, and that the reason for "The Persuaders" going off the air is that only 23 programmes were ever made. Apparently, the stupid Americans were not impressed by Danny and My Lord, the Saint. In their place we will get "The Avengers" — very good, if Miss Peel is one of them.

BEDTIME STORIES FOR TINY TOTS FROM TV HOUSE:

Medical Centre (alternate Wednesdays, 5.40 p.m.)

Once upon a time there lived in a far country a great, rich and good king, the head of a surgical department. He had a magic scalpel, and every thing he touched with it turned into dollars. But for a long time he had a secret sorrow, because he had no children. Then a beautiful daughter was born to him. He invited all the good fairies to come to her christening party, and they gave the little girl beauty, brains, charm, humour, everything that a girl could want. But he forgot to invite the wicked fairy Aneurism, and, in her rage, she gave the little girl something in her head



which would turn into a bubble when she grew up and wanted to get married.

In due course she did grow up and became engaged to a prince in the State Department. And then the bubble grew in her head. So her father said: "I will give up half my research grants and four beds for private patients in my department to any young sawbones who can get rid of my daughter's bubble."

Now, Joe was only a humble bonecutter, but he came to the king and said he had a way to heal the princess. And he put a clamp in her neck and she married the prince, and lived happily ever after, or at least as happy as anyone can live with a clamp in the neck and a bubble in the brain. And Joe also lived happily ever after, except that he was plagued by wicked fairies sent by the horrible old witch called Income Tax.

The Forsyte Saga (Mondays 5.40 p.m.)

Once upon a time there lived a very wicked magician, named Soames, who could turn anything he liked into property. And he found a beautiful but poor girl, and he waved his diamond wand over her, but she had a magic cloak cast over her by a poor but handsome boy named Philip, and so she did not turn into property. So the wicked magician waxed very angry, and he tore off her clothes, and he threw her on the bed, and he... now drink up your nice hot milk and eat up your cookies.

BEDTIME STORIES FOR ADULTS: Any talkfest programmes.

LYNNE Reid Banks' film on Friday night about the poor guy in the development town, whose wife had left him for the gay glitter of Beer-sheva, was extremely well acted and directed. But I am afraid that I must have been spoiled by the bedtime fare provided for the young (see above): I kept waiting for something to happen. Would he seduce her? Or she him? No, surely he would rape her — a poor chap left alone like that. Look at the way he fondled her soap — clearly a pervert.

When the film ended with the immigrants abandoning him, just like his wife had done, I felt that it had gone very flat indeed. Still, they did leave him a bottle of Scotch. Kipling once declared that a woman is only a woman, but a good cigar is a Smoke: Scotch is perhaps preferable to rape. So maybe the film had a happy ending, after all.

stronger draughts since then. It all had the flavour of ancient history — yet it was only 15 years ago.

An excellent panel disclosed some interesting facts about the campaign — for instance, the limitation imposed on the use of armour for political reasons. Ya'acov Tsaur explained how the world got the impression that Russia was all set to bombard London and Paris with intercontinental rockets — Bulgaria's statement, in impeccable Russian, was given to ambassadors and journalists who did not understand the language of Pushkin and Tolstoy, shame on them. So they misunderstood the message.

On the question of whether we should have retreated from Sinai, the general feeling was that we had no real alternative. There was complete agreement that the campaign had been worth while. Without the betrayal of the promises given to us at the end, we would not have had the support of the world — at least, the part of it that matters — during the Six Day War, and could not have got away with our present policy. But it was a hard way to make a point.

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